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AGUIRRE LANARI SPEECH TO UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PY270355 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Sep 83

["Main excerpts" of speech by Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari to the UN General Assembly on 27 September -- recorded]

[Text] It is not necessary at this time to mention the just titles on which Argentina bases its claims over the Malvinas, South Georgia, and South Sandwich Islands. These claims have been repeatedly presented at the United Nations and at other international forums and they have been specifically recognized by Latin America and by the Nonaligned Movement which, since the Lima Declaration in 1975, has invariably and unceasingly demanded the return of those Argentine territories that are illegally occupied by the United Kingdom.

Official UK documents that have been recently issued clearly show that successive governments of the United Kingdom were interested in delaying any possible diplomatic solution to the conflict while the Argentine Government was led to believe that true negotiations were underway. This is a deceitful maneuver protected by deficiencies in an international system that does not provide for a truly effective procedure to peacefully resolve disputes caused by illegal and unjust situations; something which is made worse if one of the parties involved has veto power in the Security Council.

The United Kingdom not only continues to maintain that attitude which has resulted in well-known consequences, but it has now implemented a dangerous militarization policy in those territories that were usurped from Argentina. This obviously dangerous policy includes the establishment of a military base in the islands; the illegal and arbitrary establishment of an exclusion zone in Argentine jurisdictional waters against Argentine ships and airplanes; and the continuous adoption of provocative attitudes and statements against Argentina.

It is as if the UK Government presupposes that the United Kingdom will be able to indefinitely prolong its colonial presence on our continent. But there is nothing farther from the truth. The decolonization and recovery of the Malvinas, South Georgia, and South Sandwich Islands, is a permanent and priority objective of the Argentine people who see their legitimate rights and vital interests seriously threatened by this colonial presence. Moreover, the return of the islands to effective Argentine sovereignty is a common cause of Latin American nations.

The UK military expansion in the South Atlantic has been dangerously escalated as a result of the United Kingdom's decision to install a strategic air base in the Malvinas Islands. According to UK sources, this escalation will require more than 600 million pounds; over 1,000 workers -- just about the total population of the islands -- will be involved in building the base; and South Africa will be used as a support base to undertake this construction.

Argentina has already denounced to the UN secretary general, the UN Security Council, and the UN General Assembly, the threat that the building of this strategic air base poses to the security of the Latin American region. In a note addressed to the UN secretary general, the United Kingdom has stated that the purpose of this escalation is to defend the islands from an alleged Argentine aggression. But this is false, since my country has noted that there is a cessation of hostilities and that it has always respected and will continue to respect this cessation of hostilities. Argentina has also noted that it believes that the holding of negotiations is the proper means to resolve the dispute over the sovereignty [of the islands].

Moreover, there is an obvious disproportion between the alleged Argentine threat and the means that are used to confront it.

Therefore, we must conclude that the true objective of the United Kingdom, a nuclear power and a NATO member, is none other than that of expanding its global strategic interests to the South Atlantic.

This has been fully confirmed by the UK defense secretary, Mr. Michael Heseltine, in a lecture he delivered on 14 September at a conference sponsored by the Strategic Studies Center of Georgetown University, in Washington D.C. During this lecture, the high-ranking UK official noted among other things that today, the Malvinas Islands are not an objective of the Soviet Union, but that they will be in future decades, and that only then will the Western powers realize the strategic value of the new airbase that is being built in the islands.

With the likely purpose of reassuring his audience, Defense Secretary Heseltine added that the debt incurred in the Malvinas would not affect Great Britian's position within NATO because the 600-million-pound debt had been listed in the UK defense budget and not in NATO's budget.

Mr. Heseltine also stated that the UK victory in the Malvinas showed the effectiveness of NATO's striking force, adding that following the results of the Malvinas war the UK Government had decided to improve its strategical and air mobilization capabilities to support operations outside NATO's jurisdiction.

The statements I have just quoted clearly show the seriousness of the situation and the dangerous and irreparable consequences for Latin America that would result from turning the South Atlantic into another focus of the East-West conflict.

My country believes that Britain's NATO allies have the responsibility to dissuade the United Kingdom from continuing with its dangerous adventure, and to publicly withdraw its support for this, in order to reassure the Latin American continent and all the nation members of the UN General Assembly.

Mr President, as time goes by it becomes more necessary and urgent that Argentina and the United Kingdom resume negotiations as soon as possible through the good offices of the UN secretary general and in keeping with Resolution 37/9 of the UN General Assembly.

Argentina has expressed on many occasions its willingness to negotiate. My country has publicly and officially accepted Resolution 37/9 and offered its maximum cooperation to the UN secretary general in the good offices mission entrusted him by the United Nations.

However, the UK Government has not responded to Argentina's positive attitude because it has disregarded the UN resolution and implemented a policy based exclusively on force and provocation.

No excuses can justify the UK refusal to comply with its basic obligation as a UN member to seek a peaceful and negotiated solution to its dispute with Argentina, and to refrain from adopting provocative measures that could increase tension in the South Atlantic. This obligation stems from the UN Charter and from the resolutions approved by the General Assembly and the Security Council of the United Nations.

The UK Government's obligation to actively cooperate in finding a peaceful solution to this conflict is even greater because, as a standing member of the UN Security Council, the United Kingdom is particularly responsible for the maintenance of international peace and security.

For this reason, it is not surprising that the UK Government should not be capable of accounting for the serious violations of its international commitments and of the principles of international coexistence, violations which have been criticized by the Argentine Government and even by some UK sectors. [As received]

Great Britain's volation of the UN Charter cannot even be based on the alleged need to get Argentina to comply with formalities that are not required by international law, since, as is know, Argentina's position regarding the cessation of hostilities has conformed to Resolution 37/9 of the UN General Assembly and to the UN Charter's provisions on peaceful solutions to disputes.

Furthermore, the 14 and 1/2 months that have elapsed since the cessation of hostilities are proof of Argentin's strict compliance with the UN Charter and resolutions. In light of this, how can the United Kingdom account for its persistence in focusing the problem on this aspect of the 1982 crisis which has already been resolved? This shows that the only reason for it stems from the announced UK refusal to negotiate and to the UK decision to consolidate its illegal occupation by setting up a military base on the islands in keeping with its strategic, expansionistic policy.

The situation could improve if the United Kingdom would comply with the UN Charter and with Resolution 37/9 by giving up its aggressive plans and lifting the exclusion zone.

Mr President, Argentina sincerely and responsibly urges the UK Government to review its position, comply with the pertinent resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council of the United Nations, and agree to resume in good faith the negotiations inorder to find a solution to the sovereignty dispute over the Malvinas.

Mr President, Argentina is also willing to find a solution to the southern border dispute with the Republic of Chile through the priceless intervention of His Sanctity John Paul II. His sanctity's good offices mission will hlep the two governments find a final solution to the dispute and to strengthen the traditional ties between the brotherly Argentine and chilean people.

Mr President, in various international forums, Argentina has announced its decision to institutionalize the country within a fixed period of time. The institutionalization process is already underway and the political parties, which represent all political trends, are reorganizing and are carrying out active campaigns to elect on 30 October all the future national, provincial, and municipal authorities, and to establish a republican, representative and federal system of government. The parties are carrying out their campaigns with total freedom and the guarantee of the government's nonintervention.

Within 35 days, my government will hold the announced elections thus fulfilling its promise. I hereby reaffirm my government's commitment before this international forum.

Further Aguirre Comments

PY280034 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1342 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 27 Sep (DYN) -- Today Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari stated that the announcement he made yesterday at the UN General Assembly on the construction of a strategic UK military base on the Malvinas Islands was met "with concern" by many countries since "little was known about this."

He said that the introduction of nuclear arms in that region "means creating a center of tension in South America and this no longer represents merely an Argentine problem."

On the other hand, he reiterated his belief that the Beagle conflict does not mean "a possible outbreak of tension which will lead to nonpeaceful actions" and stated that although the government continues to analyze the papal proposal, "the congress should adopt the final decision."

Aguirre Lanari made these statements in a telephone conversation from New York, where he is attending the 38th UN General Assembly, for Radio Continental's program "Magdalena and the News."

The foreign minister stated: "I have the impression that many countries have heard our charges with concern" and added that "this will lead the international community to a profound reflection" over the conflict in the south Atlantic.

After pointing out the support granted by other Latin American countries whose foreign ministers -- such as those of Brazil and Venezuela -- spoke before the assembly yesterday, Aguirre Lanari pointed out that that support is "taken into account" by the other countries.

NAVY TO BEGIN 'FRATERNO V' OPERATION WITH BRAZIL

PY271524 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2135 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Bahia Blanca, 26 Sep (Telam) -- The day after tomorrow a group of Argentine Navy ships will sail out to participate in Fraterno V Operations, which will be carried out jointly with the Brazilian Navy.

The task force is made up of the destroyer "Santisima Trinidad," the corvettes "Drummond", "SS Guerrico," and "Granville," and the submarine "Salta." The latter is stationed in Mar del Plata base and will be sailing from this base to join the rest of the ships. Captain Ernesto Francisco Diamante will command the task force.

The Argentine ships will carry out jointly with the Brazilian Navy's units a variety of naval operations which will conclude on 10 October with the arrival of the ships in Rio de Janeiro. This operation is basically aimed at coordinating the naval and naval aviation means which are intended for the defense of the common interests of two neighbouring and friendly countries.

Sophisticated communications systems and ideas about the employment of arms systems which emanate from the common geopolitic grounds of the two countries are thus made compatible. The Fraterno V joint operation is the fifth naval operation that the two countries have carried out.

CGT'S TALKS WITH BIGNONE FAIL; STRIKE SCHEDULED

PY272325 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 27 Sep 83 p 11

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Sep (NA) -- Talks yesterday between President Reynaldo Bignone and top leaders of both branches of the General Confederation of Labour (CGT) proved unsuccessful, leaving open the possibility of a general strike.

On leaving the meeting, CGT-RA Secretary General Saul Ubaldini said that Bignone had described labour's claims as "just and reasonable," but the President's replies to their requests had been "neither satisfactory nor concrete."

A government source said Bignone had flatly rejected the union leader's demands of more substantial wage increases, holding his ground on the 12 percent monthly hikes decreed a few months ago.

The President reportedly said he had nothing more to offer, emphasizing that current tax collection amounts to only 37 percent of government expenditures.

Labour Minister Hector Villaveiran -- also present at the meeting -- told the press later, however, that "the possibilities have not been exhausted," adding that he will soon call for a new round of talks among government, union, and business leaders. He said the government might take into consideration cost of living in setting wage increase percentages for the last quarter of this year.

Union sources said the CGT's might soon decide on some sort of action to back their claims, following the unfruitful meeting with Bignone, adding that the possibility was that of a 24-hour strike on Monday.

POLICE ARREST FOUR POLITICAL DEMONSTRATORS

PY270333 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1706 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Sep (DYN) -- Political sources have reported that four political leaders and a retired journalist were arrested this afternoon by the federal police for demonstrating in front of the Central Bank to protest conditions for refinancing the foreign debt and to demand the resignations of Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe and Central Bank President Julio Gonzalez del Solar.

The small demonstration was organized by the Popular Leftist Front (FIP) and those arrested were the FIP leader in the federal district, Rodolfo Balmaceda, Jorge Saler, and Luis Rodriguez.

Also arrested were Hugo Esteba, of the Independence Party [Partido de la Independencia], of nationalist leanings, and Ludovico Vita, a retired journalist who until 1982 worked for the newspaper LA RAZON, and who also held several government posts. According to police sources, Vita was "identified and later released" but eyewitnesses noted that those arrested were beaten by the police.

The demonstrators charged that Wehbe and Gonzalez del Solar "are more interested in protecting the interests of Argentina's creditors."

GOVERNMENT PROMULGATES ANTISUBVERSION LAW

PY271709 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1440 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Sep (TELAM) -- Law 22,928, which was promulgated today, establishes judicial procedures for the investigation and prosecution of crimes typified in the Penal Code as subversive or terrorist, as well as those so typified in the Military Justice Code, as long as their prosecution does not fall under the jurisdiction of the Military Court. The law also deals with common crimes which, although not committed with terrorist or subversive intent, can be proximate cause to subversive or terrorist crimes.

The law for the prosecution of terrorist or subversive activities precludes military jurisdiction over subversive or terrorist crimes committed by civilians.

On the other hand, the law makes it clear that it is intended to give the nation an adequate legal instrument for deterring, controling, and punishing subversive or terrorist activities, and for protecting the rights guaranteed to the people by a democratic regime.

PROVINCE POLICE CHIEF TO BE RELIEVED OF POST

PY280028 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1202 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 27 Sep (NA) -- Brigadier General Fernando Verplaetsen, chief of the Buenos Aires provincial police, will reportedly be relieved from that security corps and designated deputy commander of the military institutions.

The unexpected transfer of this military officer will reportedly take place as a consequence of a speech made by Verplaetsen in Mar del Plata in which he revealed that Governor Jorge Aguado had ordered the police to repress "violently" a protest in General Belgrano.

Governor Aguado reportedly met on Sunday with President Reynaldo Bignone and with Army authorities yesterday. He discussed this issue with them, according to reports.

After Aguado's visit to the "Libertador" building, it was learned that Verplaetsen will reportedly be transferred to the command of military institutions by decision of Army Commander Lieutenant General Cristino Nicolaides.

COSTA MENDEZ PREPARES DEFENSE ON FALKLANDS ROLE

PY231646 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 22 Sep 83 p 11

[Text] Former Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez said yesterday that he "has a very good case" to conduct his defense if the Armed Forces' Supreme Council decides to take him to trial for his role during the Malvinas war last year.

He also said that his actions during the conflict "were public and there was no secret diplomacy at all" and that "his actions are open to judgment by public opinion."

Costa Mendez said on a Radio Mitre programme that "the conviction and strength with which I defended the rights of Argentines' national sovereignty and dignity cannot be doubted," although he admitted he "might have made the sort of mistakes we all make."

He said that he is writing a book on his memoirs of the Malvinas War, which is due to come out nearly next year.

Costa Mendez said that his decision to give up his candidacy to the Chamber of Deputies for the Federal Alliance was because "there were groups or sectors within the Federal Alliance opposed to my candidacy."

He said that the man in the street "expresses his support to me...(this is) moving and encouraging, because anonymous people stop me and say 'I'm with you' or 'thanks for what you have done."

ARMY COMMAND VERIFIES REPORTS ON REBEL TRAINING

PY271519 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Excerpt] The Defense Commission of the Senate held a private meeting with the members of the High Military Command on 6 September.

The meeting had been requested by the Defense Commission to the commander in chief of the Army to obtain information on the scope of the press reports referring to statements made by Bolivian citizen (Humberto Gilman Aguilera) at the 2nd Department Army Command regarding guerrilla training in Cuba.

The Bolivian Armed Forces was represented at the meeting by Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Alfredo Villaroel, Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Lucio Anez, General Hugo Gironda, General Simon Seles Tordoya, and General Angel Vargas.

Yesterday, Panamericana learned in Congress that the members of the High Military Command ratified and confirmed all (Humberto Gilman Aguilera's) statements.

The members of the High Military Command pointed out that former Interior Minister Mario Roncal did not cooperate in the investigations and that, on the contrary, the Army Command and the 2nd Department met resistance and difficulties. They revealed that the Interior Ministry authorities should have supplied documents such as passports and others but that they didn't do so.

During the meeting with the Senate Commission, the militarymen made it clear that (Humberto Gilman's) statements and the investigations which the Army has started by no means represent a political maneuver.

The high-ranking members of the Armed Forces (?informed) the Senate about their concern over the presence in government posts of certain persons mentioned by (Gilman Aguilera), as well as others whose participation was discovered through the investigations carried out by the Army 2nd Department. Santa Cruz Prefect Joaquin Monasterios who was [word indistinct] during the meeting at the Senate, was mentioned among these people.

The military authorities stated that arms were undoubtedly delivered to the Interior Ministry on three occasions destined for the Bolivian police forces to be used in their struggle against drug trafficking. They disclosed that 150 submachine guns and 10 (FIK) rifles were delivered. They also pointed out that through the pertinent department they requested of the Interior Ministry and Bolivian police information on the final destination and use of these arms with the purpose of (?keeping a record) but that so far they have had no concrete information on the final destination of the arms or who has them at present.

COB COMMITTEES TO STUDY COUNTRY'S PROBLEMS

PY231902 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Excerpt] The Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] has created three committees made up of members of this union organization to study the country's economic, political, and social problems to prepare a report for next Sunday. Juan Lechin Oquendo, COB executive secretary, said that this does not mean that these committee members are going to participate with the government's mixed commissions announced 2 days ago.

In a conversation with the press, Lechin disclosed the names of the committee members who are going to present the conclusions of their study during a COB National Executive Committee meeting next Sunday.

[Begin Lechin recording] These are COB internal committees. They are made up in the following manner: Supply Committee: Comrades Jose Maria Palacios, Eduardo Vazquez, and Aldo Flores; Transport Committee: Comrades Filemon Escobar, (Casto Rivero), and a delegate of the Railroad Union Confederation; the third is the Salary Committee: Comrade Fernando Morales, Victor Lima, (Max Toro), Noel Vazquez.

These committees are going to make a thorough study of the COB proposals which were made to the cabinet and the president a few nights ago. Next Sunday, the COB Executive Committee will receive a report from these committees, make an evaluation, and agree upon the committees' proposals so that special committees can be created to go to the various ministries in charge of solving these problems. [end recording]

BRIEFS

COCHABAMBA MAYOR CONFIRMED -- Cochabamba, 12 Sep (PRESENCIA) -- Cochabamba Mayor Hugo Montero Mur has reported that he has been confirmed in his position. [Summary] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 13 Sep 83 p 7 PY]

TARIJA PREFECT, MAYOR INSTALLED -- Tarija, 12 Sep (PRESENCIA) -- Rodrigo Oller Altamirano and Walter Mogro Vargas have been installed as Tarija prefect and mayor respectively. [Summary] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 13 Sep 83 p 7 PY]

FOREIGN MINISTER SARAIVA DEFENDS FOREIGN POLICY

PY280218 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Sep 83 p 4

[Text] Yesterday at the Federal Senate, Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro stated that "the malicious intention of labeling Brazilian foreign policy as following Third World trends neither does justice to its complexity nor to the Third World itself." The foreign minister appeared before the Federal Senate in response to an invitation extended from Senator Pedro Simon [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party (PMDB) -- Rio Grande Do Sul] a month ago at the Foreign Relations Committee after Senator Roberto Campos [Social Democratic Party (PDS) Mato Grosso] criticized Itamaraty's foreign policy and labeled it a "Third World" and "unrealistic" policy.

Yesterday, Senator Campos was not present during the foreign minister's 2-hour talk, choosing instead to attend a seminar on "The Judicial Branch's role in a modern democracy" held at the Senate and sponsored by the U.S. Information and Cultural Affairs Service. Campos arrived at the end when Senator Luiz Viana, president of the Foreign Affairs Committee, was closing the meeting. None of the approximately 15 senators representing various parties objected to Minister Saraiva Guerreiros' statements. Senators Pedro Simon and Itamar Franco [PMDB -- Mato Grosso] agreed with the minister's statements and the way Itamaraty is conducting Brazilian foreign policy.

During his talk Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro stated that "the links which Brazil maintains with countries of the Third World are varied, in keeping with guidelines of mutual interest, and are intended to defend common values in various issues. We are developing countries, and therefore this requires that we take specific actions."

The minister also stated that no exclusion is made in political contacts nor ideologies when chosing our partners for international dialogue. He stated that, on the contrary, "we are observing the principle of universal doctrine, not only because it is a sound doctrine but also because the complexity of the international arena requires it and because Brazil's needs and interests deem it. The foreign minister stressed that there is no such thing as a Third World policy, although our policy suits the Third World and we are not going to abandon that policy." As far as a concrete relationship with the Western Hemisphere goes, the minister asserted that Brazil's modernization is linked to its inclusion in the Western economy. "The importance of our foreign debt is sound proof of our links with the West."

SENATOR PROPOSES FIGUEIREDO-REAGAN MEETING

PY280201 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 27 Sep 83

[From the Congressional Report]

[Excerpt] Senator (Alberto Silva) has proposed that President Joao Figueiredo go to Washington to meet with President Ronald Reagan to try and solve Brazil's foreign debt problems. He noted: I believe that President Figueiredo should convince Reagan that Brazil needs a truce in order to free itself from the asphyxiation produced by the foreign debt, that the Brazilian people cannot endure recession and unemployment any longer, and that Brazil needs to regain self-confidence to resume its development process before more serious problems arise.

SAO PAULO ASSEMBLY APPROVES COMMUNIST PARTY

PY271712 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Sep 83 p 4

[Excerpt] Brazilian Communist Party leaders yesterday showed up at Sao Paulo's legislative assembly to witness the approval of the motion presented by Deputy Osiro Silveira (PTB) [Brazilian Labor Party] asking President Figueiredo to legally recognize that party. Giocondo Dias, Salomao Malina, Armenio Guedes, and Luiz Tenorio de Lima, among others, were heartily congratulated by some deputies prior to the voting of the motion. They remained in the lobby listening to the favorable statements. None of the deputies criticized Osiro Silveira's motion.

"The PCB [Brazilian Communist Party] must not be left out of Brazilian political activities and remain underground, a situation that harms the party and makes it subject to persecution. The PCB must achieve full legal status and help to implement a multiparty system in the country," Osiro Silveira said defending his motion. He added that "the lack of legal recognition of a political organization does not eliminate its ideology." Therefore, Silveira feels that being "subjected to a public and legal control, like the rest, the PCB would significantly cooperate in the building of a more genuine, freer, more sovereign, and more independent regime."

200,000 SUGAR CANE WORKERS STRIKE IN PERNAMBUCO

PY271609 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0953 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Recife, 27 Sep (EFE) -- The strike in which nearly 200,000 sugar cane workers have participated in Pernambuco since last Saturday to demand raises in wages is still going on and has already taken a toll, as one person has died.

The secretary of the Pernambuco State Agricultural Workers Federation [Federacion de Trabajadores de la Agricultura del Estado de Pernambuco FETAPE], (Armando Ferreira), has said that nearly 90 percent of the workers were absent yesterday, which forced 15 sugar mills in the state to stop their activities due to lack of cut sugar cane.

(Armando Ferreira), whose federation is coordinating the strike, also said that during the talks with FETAPE the employers have already accepted 15 of the 42 demands of the workers. He added besides the wage increases, the sugar cane cutters are demanding that the payment system by piecework be cancelled and that an 8-hour work day in the field be established.

While the Pernambuco State Government has issued a communique stating that it protected the exercise of the right to strike, "as long as it conforms to the law," the regional labor court is studying whether the strike is legal in the light of the workers' demands.

According to FETAPE reports, violent actions against the strikers have taken place in six cities of the sugar cane growing areas in Pernambuco and in some sugar cane plantations the work hands were forced to work at gun point.

Ferreira today stressed his hope that "the workers will finally win this 1983 wage increase campaign."

500 SQUATTERS ILLEGALLY OCCUPY SOCCER FIELD

PY280208 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Today Carabineros arrested seven persons when they evacuated a small soccer field located in the El Pinar neighborhood on Paradero No 5, Vicuna Maquena Avenue.

On Monday, approximately 500 persons illegally occupied a small soccer field located on El Pinar Avenue, at the intersection of Loren and Bio-Bio Streets. The Carabineros, who arrived in five buses, proceeded to evacuate the field and to burn the tents, lumber, and other materials used by the squatters. Later, the Carabineros arrested several persons. Answering questions, the Carabinero officer in charge of the operation noted that only seven persons were arrested and that they were aboard a police stationwagon.

Among those arrested by the Carabineros was Father (Guido Peters) of San Cayetano parish in La Legua, but he was released after he identified himself. The others who were arrested by the Carabineros have been identified as (Henry Segundo Ortega Hidalgo), (Hernaldo Vargas Raya), (Patricio Campos Campos), (Jose Luis Navarrete), and (Walter Changana Alarcon).

In this regard, the metropolitan area intendant's office has issued a press communique which states that on Monday, 26 September, at approximately 2200, a group of 250 persons from La Legua, El Pinar, and German Riesco illegally occupied a lot belonging to the Santiago SERVIU [expansion unknown] branch.

The squatters were led by San Cayetano Paris priest [name indistinct] (Peter Roth), better known as (El Guido), who, along with other leaders and representatives of the so-called homeless committee, proceeded to occupy this property. The Carabineros were able to persuade the majority of the squatters to leave the site. The squatters stated that their only objective was to call attention to their problem and that they wanted to meet with an administrative authority, either the mayor or the intendant, to discuss their problem.

SEGUEL SETS CONDITIONS FOR GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE

PY280206 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] During a press conference, Rodolfo Seguel, president of the Copper Workers Confederation [CTC], has stated that we workers cannot sit at a conference table with the government until we can do so on equal terms.

The union leader noted that before this can be done, two basic conditions must be fulfilled. These are the reinstatement of all copper workers who were fired, who total over 500, and the lifting of charges against 31 union leaders.

He added that only when these problems are overcome, can the copper workers feel that we are on equal terms with the government and sit down at the conference table, since today we have even more things to protest to the government.

31 TERRORISTS KILLED IN CLASHES IN AYACUCHO

PY280323 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0018 GMT 28 Sep 83

[Text] Lima, 27 Sep (EFE) -- The regional military political command today reported that 31 terrorists died in clashes with forces of order that took place in two provinces of Ayacucho Department. According to a communique issued by the military political command, the clashes took place yesterday in the areas known as Rosario and Tribolini in the De La Mar Province -- where 26 subversives were killed -- and in the Mina Janao sector, Huanta Province, where five subversives were killed.

The communique notes that a clash in De La Mar ensued when the forces of order discovered a "terrorist" training camp. The communique adds that there was a clash in Mina Janao, but other than the number of dead, it does not give any other details. The communique also notes that the forces of order confiscated guns, explosives, radio equipment, rations, and subversive propaganda.

32 TEXTILE FACTORIES CLOSE; 18,000 UNEMPLOYED

PY261430 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1043 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Lima, 26 Sep (TELAM) -- The Peruvian Textile Workers Federation [Federation de Trabajadores en Tejido del Peru] has reported that 32 textile factories have been shut down and that 18,000 workers in this field are currently unemployed.

(Jose Melgar Lopez), secretary of the Peruvian Textile Workers Federation, has noted that many of the unemployed workers have been unable to collect their severance pay and welfare allowances.

The Peruvian Textile Workers Federation has criticized the government for its industrial policy and the sharp decline in cotton production. This decline is now reaching 40 percent, due to poor weather and indiscriminate cotton exports.

On the other hand, most of the 308 legally established shoemaking industries in Peru are on the brink of collapse as a result of the output of more than 2,000 illegal enterprises, the enormous drop in production, and the financial crisis which is ailing the country.

CGTP STRIKE PROTESTS GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC POLICY

Authorization Refused

PY270131 Paris AFP in Spanish 1709 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Lima, 24 Sep (AFP) -- The Peruvian Labor Ministry today refused to authorize the General Confederation of Peruvian Workers (CGTP) to hold a general strike next Monday to protest against the government's economic policy.

The strike, which was initially planned for next Tuesday and Wednesday, was restricted to 24 hours because the leaders of the CGTP and of the Single Committee for Struggle [Comite Unitario de Lucha] feared that it might fail, considering that the other three labor confederations had refused to participate in it.

The other three labor confederations, which are the General Confederation of Labor (pro-American Revolutionary Popular Alliance, APRA), the National Labor Confederation (Christian), and the Peruvian Revolutionary Workers Confederation, had submitted their claims directly to the government.

The Labor Ministry stated that the reasons behind the strike are mostly foreign to the labor sector, and it threatened the CGTP and the Single Committee for Struggle by declaring the strike illegal.

Among the reasons unknown to the labor sector, the Interior Ministry cited the protest against the economic policy, the demand for a policy to control the prices of gasoline and foodstuffs, the enactment of a university law, and the enforcement of freedom.

The CGTP and the Single Committee for Struggle, which are made up of bank employees, public school teachers, and electricity board employees from the interior of the country, stated that the strike would be held all the same, and they requested APRA's support. The Marxist parties have already expressed their decision to participate in the strike.

Strike On Despite Ban

PA262007 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] The national strike convoked for Tuesday by the General Confederation of Peruvian Workers, CGTP, has been outlawed by the Peruvian Government, but the union has reaffirmed its decision to hold the strike.

The Peruvian Labor Ministry declared illegal the notification of strike presented to it by the union, maintaining that the strike is not work related.

For its part, the CGTP has issued a statement calling on all Peruvians, including unions, political organizations, and religious and cultural groups opposed to the policy of hunger and poverty to give their unrestricted support to this struggle of the workers and peasants. The national strike was called to protest the economic policy of the government headed by Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry.

One Dead, 150 Arrested

PY280337 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0001 GMT 28 Sep 83

[Text] Lima, 27 Sep (EFE) -- One dead and 150 people arrested is the initial result of a national stoppage called for today by the General Confederation of Peruvian Workers (CGTP), a union with communist leanings.

Unofficial sources noted that student Gregorio Sanchez died under unspecified circumstances in the Lima district of San Martin de Porres while he was setting up a barricade.

There were several outbreaks of violence in other parts of Lima in which an unspecified number of people were injured.

An initial report notes that 150 persons were arrested today, mainly in the industrial sector of Lima, for participating in demonstrations and "riots" ["soltas"].

The Civil Guard has been constantly patrolling the working-class neighborhoods of Lima -- where the majority of CGTP members live -- and the downtown area where Peruvian banks have their main offices. Throughout the day, the forces of order used anti-riot measures and water cannons at all times.

The stoppage, which was called by the CGTP to demand improvement of the workers' salaries, illicited a mixed response in Lima. While the industrial areas were almost completely paralyzed, the stoppage in shops and in the banking sector was irregular and the urban transportation system offered restricted service. Labor activity in the rest of the country was virtually normal. However, there were demonstrations in Ancash Department, in Chimbote port, and in the Andean city of Huancayo, where the stoppage was supported by 80 percent of the labor sector. For the time being, there are no reports of serious incidents in the provinces.

HAVANA REPORTS BAN WORKER, MINER STRIKES

Bank Workers Win Increase

PA261650 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] After a strike that lasted several days during which salary increases were negotiated, Peruvian bank workers succeeded in having their demands met. (?Edgardo Cuba), secretary general of the Confederation of Bank Workers, has reported that the strike demonstrated the workers' unity, and that the workers struggled in this manner to demand their interests.

4,000 Copper Workers Strike

PA261608 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] More than 4,000 workers from the U.S. concern Southern Peru Copper Corporation, which exploits mines in Peru, have begun an indefinite strike. The workers, who are demanding salary increases, are from the Moquegua and Tacna mines.

LEFTIST FRONT SEEKS COORDINATION ON 3 OCT STRIKE

PA251617 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] In a communique issued in Lima, the United Leftist Front of Peru [Frente de Izquierda Unida del Peru] has called on all social, political, and other organizations identified with the opposition to coordinate actions to guarantee the success of the strike called by the General Confederation of Peruvian Workers on Tuesday, 3 October. The communique blames the Peruvian Government for the dire poverty of the people and describes its economic policy as an expression of shameful submission to transnational interests. The document accuses the Peruvian Government of taking advantage of the phenomena of armed groups to order the arrest and disappearance of all those opposed to its policy.

Meanwhile, the Association of Peruvian Journalists has asked the office of the Attorney General to investigate charges about violations of freedom of the press in the strike-torn region of Ayacucho. Mario Castro, dean of the association, mentioned the specific cases of Luis Morales and Alirio Arroyo, correspondents of the newspaper MARKA in Ayacucho and Huanta, who have been barred from practicing journalism.

ZAMBRANO UN SPEECH HIGHLIGHTS REGIONAL CONFLICTS

PA271330 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco analyzed the political situation on the continent during his speech at the UN Headquarters in New York. Zambrano Velasco discussed several of the conflicts among nations on the continent, referring first to the Contadora Group's efforts to stave off a large-scale confrontation. [passage indistinct]

Regarding the Anglo-Argentine conflict, the Venezuelan foreign minister said that the outcome of the war in the North Atlantic must not lead Great Britain to think it can again successfully resort to the use of force. Zambrano added that Venezuela cannot accept colonialism in Latin America and will never accept a consolidation of the despoilment of part of its territory by the British Empire.

ELN, TROOPS, POLICEMEN CLASH IN CUTUFI

PA280403 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1754 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Caracas, 27 Sep (LATIN-REUTER) -- It was officially reported today that two guerrillas and a policeman were killed in a clash between members of a leftist Colombian guerrilla group and Venezuelan police.

The incident took place yesterday in the border area of Cutufi, where members of the National Liberation Army (ELN) of Colombia attacked a National Guard position 10 days ago, killing a policeman. First Infantry Brigade sources in San Cristobal, some 800 km southwest of Caracas, told this agency by telephone that the fighting lasted almost 5 hours. They added that five soldiers of a rangers battalion, nine guerrillas, and three officers from the Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services (DISIP) were injured in the fighting. The clash began when a DISIP group detained two alleged insurgents, one of whom was identified as a Colombian, the source said.

The clash follows Defense Minister General Humberto Alcalde's announcement last week that the guerrilla group that attacked the National Guard post had been surrounded by 1st Infantry Brigade troops and Colombian troops in a joint operation.

PRIVATE DEBT TO BE PAID IN TOTAL BEFORE END OF 1983

PA261754 Paris AFP in Spanish 1656 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Caracas, 26 Sep (AFP) -- It was officially announced today that Venezuela will repay in total the private debt due in 1983 before the end of this year. According to a presidential decree published after a Cabinet meeting that lasted all night and into the morning, the Venezuelan Government will pay all the accrued interest and corresponding principal of its private debt before the end of the year.

A special commission will consider the reimbursement authorizations. The private debt enjoys a preferential exchange rate of 4.30 bolivares to the dollar.

FOREIGN SECRETARY ON REGIONAL ISSUES, UN MEETING

PA270450 Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 23 Sep 83 pp 1, 11

[Article by Guadalupe Diaz Silva]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor said yesterday that Mexico's foreign policy is not based on whims or arbitrary actions, and that its independent and sovereign nature is not affected by fluctuations in the economy. He added that the current situation in Central America is not one of war in the strictest sense of the word; however, there are armed border skirmishes and acts of subversion that do not make the Contadora Group's task any easier.

During a news conference, the foreign secretary emphasized that our country's foreign policy is based on a lengthy tradition and historical experience. He said that it has been supported by successive administrations because the intrinsic virtures and merits of its premises validate Mexico's international position, independent of the individuals governing the country at any given moment.

Similarly, he reported that the efforts to be made by the Contadora Group at the United Nations next week will have a different slant. On one hand, the Group has proposed that the topic "Strengthening the Peace Efforts in Central America" be included on the agenda. The Group members will also meet with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and with EEC officials, since a formal pronouncement of support is not enough; political-diplomatic actions are needed to give tangible support to Contadora.

On the other hand, Sepulveda Amor indicated that joint political efforts must be made to deal with the economic crisis currently afflicting Latin America, and pointed out that a Mexican proposal was adopted at the SELA meeting for the creation of an Action Committee for the economic and social development of Central America. "It has been reiterated that the economic crisis is due to the economic and social backwardness of the area," he said.

Sepulveda Amor also said that the committee will be obligated to carrying out a coordinated effort in trade, financing, and technical cooperation with the Central American countries.

The foreign secretary said that this document was unanimously approved by the countries that participated in the most recent meeting in Panama, meaning that for the first time the five Central American foreign ministers have agreed on the foundations for a commitment that will serve as a basis for the preparation of specific agreements.

Affirming that there is no war in Central America, he said that formal declarations of war were issued in the 19th century, but that probably none will be issued in this century.

Turning to another subject, Sepulveda Amor said that the UN General Assembly will begin on 26 September amid a particularly difficult state of affairs: "It is widely admitted that the international political crisis has become worse and that tensions are much sharper today than a year ago, when the previous General Assembly opened."

Mexico, along with other countries, including those of the Contadora Group, the Group of 77, and the developing countries, will present a concept, a political idea, directed toward detente and an atmosphere that will discourage confrontation between states.

Asked about a possible change of the UN seat, Sepulveda Amor said that the United Nations has had its headquarters in New York City for the past 38 years, and that to transfer it elsewhere would not be easy politically or financially. He added that there is an agreement, an international treaty between the United Nations and the United States, that, with some exceptions, has worked very well.

Asked about the effect that Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko's absence will have on the General Assembly, Sepulveda Amor deplored the fact that he was not going to attend, saying: "We would have liked to learn the views of the foreign minister himself; his presence would have brought interesting elements to the UN debate. Furthermore, his attendance has become a tradition."

Asked if the Mexican Government was happy with the U.S. Government's public support for the Contadora Group, Sepulveda Amor said that the Group has received support from a large number of governments and political organizations covering a wide political spectrum, "ranging from the EEC to the National Action Party."

EXCELSIOR INTERVIEWS SOVIET AMBASSADOR

PA280319 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 21 Sep 83 pp 1, 12, 32

[Interview given by Rotislav A. Sergeyev, Soviet ambassador to Mexico, to Marta Anaya in Mexico City; date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Why are Soviet ambassadors so quiet here in Mexico? Why do they so seldom talk?

Answer: I don't understand it... I always answer when someone calls. I think this simply means that our enemies are vigorously at work.

Question: Do you mean to say that it is we who don't call on you?

Answer: Exactly.

Question: That's possible; however, there is no doubt that your embassy has always been surrounded by a sort of fog, by an unexplained fear. And you don't invite people in nor open your doors when someone calls.

Answer: I insist that it is our enemies who provoke this image. In the last few months, some North Americans have unleashed an anti-Soviet campaign and that has been reflected here in Mexico.

Question: Don't you feel that the Soviets represent a sort of danger to Mexico's political system and that this may account for the silence surrounding you?

Answer: No! I have normal contacts with the Mexican Government, the state secretaries, and President Miguel de la Madrid. There are no grounds for believing that the position of silence regarding the USSR has been provoked by the Mexican Government. It has instead been created by our enemies.

Question: What is your opinion of Kissinger's interpretation of the U.S.-USSR conflict?

Answer: Peace is now based on a military and strategic balance...and this balance can be established at a lower level than that which we now have.

Question: If the conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union deteriorates even further, will the Soviet Union strengthen its relations with Cuba or abandon it?

Answer: The Soviet Union has despite historical circumstances, supported Cuba. We don't want to deceive anyone about our friendly relations with Cuba, because no matter what happens, there will be no change in the future.

Question: It is alleged that Cuba is the means by which the Soviet Union supplies weapons to several Latin American groups and countries.

Answer: Lies! Complete lies! Profound lies! Brazen lies! A slanderous campaign has been going on for years about this....

Question: How can you explain the fact that the Sandinists have Soviet-made weapons?

Answer: Nicaragua is a legitimate country and, as such, has the right to arm itself as it pleases. Is there a reason why the Sandinists should not receive weapons for their defense?

PARTY LEADERS REACT TO ALLEGED PAN-FBI LINK

PA252216 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 9 Sep 83 p 3

[Article by Juan Manuel Magana]

[Text] PAN [National Action Party] President Abel Vicencio Tovar said yesterday that he will ask the Government Secretariat to conduct a large-scale investigation into the activities of the CIA, FBI, and other U.S. organizations, in order to expose those who have sought to discredit his party through the media.

Responding to the charge that PAN has received financial aid from the FBI, Vicencio Tovar said that it is a gross allegation and added that he would very much like to see the matter pursued to the end. Let them prove the charge and let it be investigated because, unfortunately, we cannot cross the border to look into it, he said.

Meanwhile, Jaime Trejo, a spokesman for the PSUM [United Socialist Party of Mexico], said that the charge is a serious one and must be clared up. He added: "We cannot censure actions because we are not judges, but nevertheless, if a crime has been committed, the law must be enforced."

For his part, Cuauhtemoc Amezcua, a PPS [Popular Socialist Party] member, said that it is necessary that the Federal Electoral Commission seriously investigate the matter to clear up the rumor. He added that a vacuum will otherwise be created with negative effects on political stability.

On behalf of the PST [Workers Socialist Party], Jesus Ortega maintained that the charges of FBI aid to the PAN are true, because that party is trying to sabotage and impede political plans of benefit to the country. Ortega also demanded a government investigation. In the event that the charge is proven true, he demanded that the PAN Charter be revoked and that the party be banned from involvement in Mexican political life.

PDM [Mexican Democratic Party] President Gumersindo Magana Negrete said in contrast that the accusation cannot be true, because the PAN leadership is not so dumb as to request or receive foreign support. That would be very stupid, he said.

While PAN President Abel Vicencio Tovar maintained yesterday that his party's triumph in Mexicali, northern Baja California, is both undeniable and overwhelming, Eugenio Elorduy warned that if that triumph is not respected the people might react violently, because "people do not passively accept things these days."

UNOMASUNO PRAISES CUBAN RADIO, TELEVISION

PA280221 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] The Mexican newspaper UNOMASUNO has praised the professional quality, labor stability, and mass coverage offered by Cuban radio and television.

The newspaper assessed the status of Cuban radio and television before the triumph of the revolution, noting that prior to 1959 radio and television were under the control of transnational concerns and were used to create public needs thus promoting the sale of their products.

Now, it is the Cuban people who determine what radio and television programming will be. UNOMASUNO added that 60 percent of television programming is produced in Cuba and with the best of equipment, despite the strict blockade imposed on Cuba.

BRIEFS

AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY IMPORTS -- Mexico City, 24 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- While the federal government is going forward with its program of import substitution, the domestic automobile industry surpassed last year's mark in tis purchases from other countries. A report from the Mexican Association of the Automobile Industry indicated that this sector will end the year with imports totaling $2.143 billion. [Excerpt] [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2110 GMT 24 Sep 83 FL]

HYDROCARBON RESERVES -- The Mexican Energy, Mines, and Parastate Secretariat and PEMEX have issued a joint report on the country's reserves of hydrocarbons, natural gas, and liquified petroleum gas. The report provided the following information: proven reserves of liquified hydrocarbons have remained at the 1981 level of 72,008 billion barrels. Estimates of reserves in the Gulf of Sabinas have been reduced to 1,115.6 billion cubic feet, while the Cantarell Complex in the Gulf of Campeche, the most important producing deposit in the country, now has proven reserves of 17.672 billion. [Summary] [Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 12 Sep 83 p 9 PA]

TAX REVENUES -- Guillermo Prieto Fortun, deputy secretary for revenues at the Treasury Secretariat, has reported that tax revenues for January-July 1983 totalled 1.6 trillion pesos. This represents a 121-percent increase over revenues for the same period in 1982. The figure is broken down as follows: Value added tax, IVA, 225 billion pesos, up 90 percent from last year; products and services tax, 214.5 billion pesos, an increase of 184 percent over 1982; export tax, 2.3 billion pesos, up 218.4 percent; personal income payments, 10 billion pesos; other taxes, 12.8 billion pesos. Income tax continues to be the government's main source of income. [Summary] [Mexico City NOVEDADES 21 Sep 83 pp 1, 20 PA]

NEW COASTAL RADIO STATION -- The country's 17th maritime coastal radio station will begin operation by the end of September according to the Communications and Transport Secretariat. It will be located near the mouth of the Balsas River in the state of Michoacan. The station will be equipped with medical and bilingual personnel. [Summary] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 19 Sep 83 p 2 PA]

COMMENTS, BOARD MEETING ON PANAMA CANAL

Manfredo 'Concerned' Over Future

PA262240 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 26 Sep 83 p 8-C

[Article by Jose Quintero de Leon]

[Text] One of the most important questions asked of Fernando Manfredo, deputy administrator of the Panama Canal Commission, at the Fourth National Press Seminar held in Bambito, Chiriqui, following his lecture entitled "Panama and the Challenge of the Year 21000," was whether Panama will actually administer the Panama Canal in the year 2100.

According to Manfredo, whether the Canal treaties are abided by or violated depends to a great extent on the Panamanians' ability to lodge complaints in time. "I am concerned," Manfredo said, "over the possibility that if, by the year 2000, a way has not been found to provide jobs for the thousands of Panamanians who work for the Armed Forces [of the United States], Panama, confronting such a large-scale social problem, may be tempted to extend the U.S. presence in order to resolve it."

Manfredo warned that it is necessary that Panama plan, with ample lead time, for another source of wealth to replace the income generated by the U.S. Armed Forces, and determine how to guarantee employment for the thousands of Panamanians who will loss their jobs when the U.S. military presence in Panama comes to an end.

In outlining details of the problem, he noted that U.S. Armed Forces expenditures in Panama currently pour $160 million per year into the Panamanian economy, 35 percent of what the armed forces and the Canal Commission together generate, not including the fact that the armed forces provide employment for some 6,000 Panamanians. He also expressed concern over the fact that by the year 2,000 we may not be adequately prepared to manage the canal, not at the level of the workers, but at that of Panama:"...that it may not be capable of managing that canal and may have to ask the United States to stay and manage it."

"I am concerned," he insisted, "that by that time the necessary steps may have not been taken to guarantee that the workers who are there continue to work for the canal and continue to guarantee its efficiency, and that in the face of Panama's failure to manage it, the Unied States may invoke some clause in the Treaty of Neutrality."

In closing, the ranking canal official said that "in this sense, what we do today and what is done by the Panamanians who come after us and by those who are here in the year 2000 will determine whether the United States abides by the Treaty and whether Panama and the Panamanians will really manage the canal."

Ortega on Double Wage Scale

PA270512 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Oyden Ortega, Fernando Cardoze, Carlos Ozores, and Luis Anderson, Panamanian members of the Panama Canal Commission Board of Directors, met this morning with Fernando Manfredo, Panama Canal Commission deputy administrator and retired Colonel Armando Contreras, director of the Panama Treaty Affairs Executive Directorate to discuss subjects that will be assessed at the Board of Directors meeting scheduled to begin the day after tomorrow. Regarding possible subjects to be discussed, Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Oretega said:

[Begin recording] The truth is that there are two basic subjects that are important. One is the elimination of the double wage scale, and the other involves the decisions that must be made on the expansion of Culebra Cut. As for the double wage scale, this will be a subject that the Board of Directors will include in its agenda. Today we are preparing Panama's statement for that meeting, and as the Panamanian community already knows, it is an important subject for the administration and operation of the canal, because it will create a great incentive for the workers and will have a real impact on the national economy. [end recording]

ARIAS CALDERON INTERVIEW ON ELECTIONS, LOANS

PA241535 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Interview with Ricardo Arias Calderon, president of the Panamanian Christian Democratic Party Political Committee, by Televisora Nacional News Director Diana Arosemena; on 23 September 1983; place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Arosemena] I believe that the people in the streets are asking if we are in a position to hold the honest, fair, clean elections that the executive branch promised almost a year ago. What do you think?

[Arias Calderon] I believe that now there is a possibility to believe in honest elections. General Paredes' withdrawal as a military and official candidate detaches the National Guard and the government from direct involvement in any party struggle, and for the first time, Panamanians can have some hope for honest elections.

[Arosemena] Why did you see Paredes' candidacy as a stumbling block for you?

[Arias Calderon] It was evident that a military candidate was going to force the military sector to feel bound to Paredes because of their common interests, prestige, and esprit de corps. It was also evident that sectors close to the administration were preparing a government of support for this candidacy. Therefore, instead of having honest elections, we were going to have imposed elections.

[Arosemena] You spoke of sharing booty. President de la Espriella has repeatedly stated that to him the concept of national union -- not national unity -- or the unity of national effort -- does not mean the distribution of political spoils. However, you have said that this is what De la Espriella is now doing. According to you, he is distributing booty, although he has appointed several independent individuals. Aren't you judging him too harshly?

[Arias Calderon] I am trying to analyze the incidents very realistically. I do agree that there were certain appointments of new figures, people who are independent, have well defined political views, and can give the country some hope that the government will assume the obligation of being transitional. However, I also confirm that certain individuals -- whom I feel are politically tired -- were also appointed. They follow the idea of political traditionalism and are figures whose parties have been characterized as having very specific economic interests. These individuals also supported General Paredes' pre-candidacy or candidacy. Just as I have vouched for the former, I vouch for the latter. Consequently, I have reached the conclusion that we are still facing an ambiguous picture of what this government will do. I have the hope -- well, it is rather the country's demand -- that the government will implement changes to truly become a transitional regime toward democracy.

[Arosemena] In the most recent general government council meeting held in Chitre, the president announced that the country had received $278 million and stressed that this was recognition to Panama for responsibily managing its finances. In addition, he said that this is the first Latin American country to get this kind of financing. Do you think that international banks would give Panama such a large loan if the conditions the president mentioned in his speech didn't exist?

[Arias Calderon] International banks are in a better position to judge the fiscal situation than the Panamanians, which is truly unacceptable, because the international banks undoubtedly know our government's agreement with the IMF signed on 24 June. I have just asked the planning and economic policy minister to give me a copy of that agreement. He has refused to give me a copy and just sent me copies of his statement to the press. In other words, we are facing an economic policy that wants to be more realistic and inspire confidence, but if the government truly wants to reach that goal -- and it is a valid goal -- the president and his ministers should be honest with the Panamanians, not merely with international banks.

There are indications that the government has promised the IMF that it will increase state revenues. This is done through an increase in charges for public services, possibly meaning an increase in taxes. Panamanians want to know if this promise is part of the agreement with the IMF. We can't judge the president's actions. We can't say whether they are good or bad if we don't have complete information. It would seem that the banks have it; Panamanian public opinion certainly does not have it. I take this opportunity, Diana, to demand on behalf of all Panamanians the same information given to international banks.

[Arosemena] Going back to the initial issue of this interview when we were discussing free, honest, clean, etc. elections, I ask you: As leader of Christian Democracy, do you feel more optimistic regarding the guarantees for elections on the basis of sporadic remarks by the National Guard commander, who said he is an officer, not a politician -- conveying the feeling that the National Guard has retreated from political events?

[Arias Calderon] I believe, Diana, that General Paredes' decision to withdraw his candidacy not only implies the chance for honest elections, but is also an opportunity for the National Guard to finally adopt a professional stand. This is very important.

[Arosemena] We keep going back to Paredes' decision to withdraw from the presidential race in this interview. There were some who claimed that the government was left in a vacuum regarding a possible candidate, because they had apparently outlined an entire program around Paredes' candidacy. However, this isn't the case of Christian Democracy, which must already have a specific plan. Will Christian Democracy participate in the elections with its own candidate?

[Arias Calderon] Christian Democracy announced its political objective several months ago. Its political goal is to contribute to the formation of a democratic opposition front. We believe that the change the country needs must come from the opposition because it is the guarantee for a change. For this reason, we are working with other democratic opposition parties to form this front. Within this context, it is evident that we will propose certain Christian Democratic figures to comprise the electoral ticket to be offered by the democratic opposition front.

[Arosemena] The democratic opposition front, which will come from the real opposition as you call it, is very similar to what the government is trying to do with other parties that do not seem to be in too much opposition to the regime. Thus, what is the difference between one and the other?

[Arias Calderon] The government belongs to all of us. The government cannot be reduced to one party. The government is financed by all of us. The government cannot stoop to being a part of society. This is the greatest problem we've had in the past 15 years: parties have been confused with government.

[Arosemena] Would you try to get, for example, the Authentic Panamenists in this democratic opposition front you are talking about?

[Arias Calderon] It is evident that the country's democratic opposition includes Authentic Panamenism as a very important element of the democratic opposition. Therefore, it would be expected that this party would join this front.

[Arosemena] Can I surmise then, and correct me if I'm wrong, that at this time the government and the opposition have not defined their presidential figures?

[Arias Calderon] I think that is a fact. I think it is a fact that the parties which have supported the government have not decided on a presidential figure. There shouldn't be a presidential figure of the government, but of the parties that have supported the government. On the other hand, no decision has been made as to an opposition candidate.

ARIAS CALDERON CALLS FOR 'HONEST' ELECTIONS

PA231825 Panama City YA in Spanish 23 Sep 83 pp 1, 19

[Text] The formula for national unity as a substitute for real elections is an illusion and a lie, Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon, president of the Christian Democratic Party, said in Colon.

Speaking Tuesday to the Panamanian Association of Business Executives, APEDE, Colon branch members, Arias Calderon said that "the formula for national unity as a substitute for real elections is, in the best of cases, an illusion and a lie."

"Only after honest elections are held can and should the person elected president form a government of broad and joint participation, which can make a national consensus base on a socio-economic development program effective," Arias Calderon pointed out.

Arias Calderon spoke to 50 members of APEDE at the Brazos Brooks Club on the Atlantic side.

In relation to unemployment, Arias Calderon said it is the country's most serious problem and that Colon is being dramatically affected by it. When referring to solutions to the unemployment problem, Arias Calderon said that long term development plans should be implemented. "It is necessary that through honest elections, which we hope the 1984 elections will be, we elect the first legitimate and democratic government in 16 years."

"Nothing should take us away from the straight path to honest elections in 1984, because it would be an action irresponsible to the country's democratization process and to the economic crisis solution to accept other alternatives," Arias Calderon concluded.

COSTA RICA

MONGE RATIFIES CONTADORA OBJECTIVES DOCUMENT

PA271729 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] The document containing the declaration of objectives that was approved by the Contadora Group at its latest meeting in Panama, which was attended by the Central American foreign ministers, has been ratified by the Costa Rican Government.

This afternoon, President Monge sent a message to Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins, Colombian President Belisario Betancur, Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella, and Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid ratifying the document.

President Monge Alvarez stated: I agree with you that the unanimously approved declaration of objectives reflects a high spirit of willingness to negotiate. It expresses a genuine desire for (?cooperation) and understanding in order to [words indistinct].

At this moment, it is necessary to consolidate the important achievements of the Panama meeting. With this in mind, I am pleased to express my government's agreement with the declaration of objectives approved in the meeting, President Monge said.

This approval was expressed to Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega, who on 22 September gave me the message you had signed, President Monge Alvarez added. In addition, the president stressed that the Cancun Declaration on Peace in Central America, which was signed by the Mexican, Venezuelan, Colombian, and Panamanian presidents on 17 July, the heads of state declaration of 8 May (?1980), the San Jose Act of 4 October 1982, and other documents and analyses on the Central American problem served to [words indistinct] the Costa Rican stance, which allowed Costa Rica to reach a consensus with the other countries of the area.

President Monge also said that Costa Rica will participate in a constructive manner in the upcoming negotiations for drafting the international legal instruments that will formalize the objectives included in the Panama document. Costa Rica will also participate in the reestablishment of an adequate checks and balances system, the president told his colleagues of the Contadora Group countries.

Although some of the main commitments made in Panama, such as respect for human rights, the fostering of authentic democratic government systems, the ending of the arms race, the reduction of the number of enlisted men, and disarmament, do not force Costa Rica to carry out changes in its policy and government system, my government will make every effort to assist in the adoption of international instruments for achieving peace and detente in the area, President Monge concluded.

VOLIO 'REJECTS' NICARAGUAN PROTEST ON AIR RAIDS

PA272136 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government's 25 September protest against Costa Rica, which, although habitually reckless, nevertheless surprised us and shows a determination to hurt our country at any cost, Foreign Minister Fernando Volio has stated.

This time the protest is primarily motivated by an alleged air raid on a refinery in Puerto Sandino by unidentified aircraft from Costa Rica. The protest note asserts that on its flight back to Costa Rican territory, the aircraft bombed a chemical factory at some undisclosed location.

The Nicaraguan Government did not submit any evidence to substantiate its charges and apparently did not try to obtain any. It knows it can obtain no evidence because there simply is none, Volio said.

The Nicaraguan Government's protest and failure to present any evidence clearly demonstrate once more a peculiar tendency on the part of the Nicaraguan Government leaders to blame their own internal problems on Costa Rica, as well as reflect a lack of genuine interest in maintaining respectful relations with Costa Rica, he said.

Volio added that the other charges in the note confirm this view, because they involve generalizations -- such as alleged attacks on border posts, for which Costa Rica is blamed without foundation -- and recklessly cast doubts on Costa Rica's genuine desire to cooperate, claiming that Costa Rica unjustifiably arrested 10 members of the Sandinist People's Army who invaded our territory.

Costa Rica emphatically rejects Nicaragua's protest. It is obvious that this protest is an attempt to portray a distorted image of Costa Rica to the international community, Volio said. Rather than preserving what Foreign Minister D'Escoto calls a climate of dialogue and cooperation, which Nicaragua is purportedly willing to help establish, an atmosphere is created that is exactly the opposite. For these reasons, the Costa Rican Government strongly rejects the protest and stresses that it is indispensable that Nicaragua change its policy toward Costa Rica, because it has resulted in tension and serious incidents that have clouded the path to peace, Volio said in his response to the note, which tries to attribute air raids staged by the rebel forces to Costa Rica.

SANDINIST DETAINEES TO BE RELEASED SHORTLY

PA271315 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano yesterday reiterated that the 11 Sandinist militarymen who were detained a week ago in (Aguadulce), in the Atlantic area, will be returned to their country today or tomorrow.

The Security Council on Friday agreed to release the 11 for lack of cause to detain them. In addition, the Nicaraguan Government sent a letter explaining that the Sandinists had entered our territory by mistake.

The minister added that our country has nonetheless protested to Nicaragua, because this is not the first time its Army's armed boats have entered our national waters. Minister Solano yesterday announced that the Sandinist government will be advised that the militarymen are being returned to them as evidence of Costa Rica's desire to maintain relations.

The Civil Guard personnel in Barra del Colorado have been observing Nicaraguan boats in our waters for over a month. These incidents have been taking place ever since the only patrol boat at their disposal broke down.

EL SALVADOR

PAPER STRESSES CONTADORA PLAN REQUIRES AMENDMENT

PA271306 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 26 Sep 83 p 17

[Editorial]

[Excerpts] Contadora Group Proposes A New "Pacification Plan"

A "pacification plan" for Central America was approved during the recent Contadora Group meeting attended by the foreign ministers of the five Central American countries. The 21-point agreement is currently being studied, but unless it is extensively amended our country must reject it.

The proposed agreement calls for the withdrawal of all troops and advisers from each country; an end to the trafficking of weapons and men across borders; multilateral disarmament under the supervision of international observers; and an end to all support any of the governments may be giving to the insurgents of another nation. It also seeks respect for fundamental rights and freedom and the holding of "elections."

The main problem with this plan is that if it should go into effect, it would raise a barrier of protection around Nicaragua, perpetrating the dictatorship of a group of filibusters. The satraps are oppressing the Nicaraguans with weapons; they are permitting attacks to be launched from their territory against their neighbors; and they are directly responsible for destruction and death in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, and even Costa Rica. This regime is seeking to establish a communist beachhead on the American mainland.

The Agreement Is The Same As Guaranteeing "Sandinist Satrapy"

The withdrawal of foreign troops proposed in the agreement affects several thousand U.S. soldiers on maneuvers in Honduras as well as the 2,000 Cubans in uniform in Nicaragua. But the subversives and the PLO and Cuban trainers in Nicaragua posing as "teachers or doctors," as well as Tupamaros, Montoneros, Movement of the Revolutionary Left, and Basque Fatherland and Liberty Organization militants may remain in the country passing as political refugees or even tourists. It is said that there are schools in Managua to teach these people the peculiar, but easily acquired, Nicaraguan accent.

The plan, if it is accepted by the Central American community, would be the same as the Kennedy-Khrushchev treaty that allowed Castro to strengthen his domination over Cuba in open violation of the human and political rights of the 10 million unfortunate residents of that island. To date, Castro has violated every provision included in the pact. It is utopic to believe that there could be a permanent and significant peace in Central America while Managua is encouraging hegemonic aspirations throughout the area and is continuing to serve Red imperialism.

COPREFA ON MISSING OFFICERS, ALLEGED REBEL SPLIT

PA280011 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 27 Sep 83

[News Bulletin issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, on 27 September 1983]

[Text] Two Armed Forces officers have disappeared during clashes in Tenancingo and Nuevo Eden de San Juan. Captain Carlos Napoleon Medina Garay disappeared in the fighting in Nuevo Eden de San Juan, east of San Salvador, in San Miguel Department. A total of 60 FMLN terrorists died in this clash.

In addition, Captain Tomas Alfonso Calvo disappeared while repelling a terrorist attack on Tenancingo, east of San Salvador, in Cuscatlan Department.

Our report continues: Carpio's purge has resulted in another division within the FMLN. With the recent appointment of Leonel Gonzalez and Dimas Rodriguez as the first and second commanders of the FPL [Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces], a new series of internal divisions and resentment has opened among the leaders of the subversives in El Salvador. A new exodus of combatants is foreseen. In this case, they will be loyal Carpio followers from among the FPL's ranks. The first massive exodus took place while the amnesty law was in effect, when 1,200 fighters and political prisoners sought protection under this law.

The climb of Gonzalez and Rodriguez within the guerrillas' ranks, which was manipulated by the ERP [People's Revolutionary Army] in Nicaragua, displaced Salvador Guerra, Carpio's trusted man, who is now charged with minor duties. In addition, the appointment of Gonzalez and Rodriguez, according to our reports, constitutes a displacement of the entire FPL and of Carpio, the labor movement theoretician in the construction of the revolutionary process, who always opposed the placement of former university students in leadership positions. Gonzalez and Rodriguez are members of a faction consisting of former professors and students from the University of El Salvador who tried to snatch power away from the labor movement supporters, with ERP backing.

At an FPL meeting in Managua it was agreed to clear up the death of Melida Anaya Montes, also known as Commander Ana Maria. The plan is to accuse Carpio of the brutal murder -- she was stabbed more than 80 times. Carpio allegedly asked his deputy, Rogelio Pasaglia, to commit the crime. In this plan, Gonzalez and Rodriguez will have the complicity of the Sandinist regime, which is reportedly charged with making the announcement soon.

REPORTAGE ON FIGHTING IN TOWN OF TENANCINGO

PA270508 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 26 Sep 83 pp 12, 38

[Text] An undertermined number of civilian deaths were reported over the weekend during a guerrilla attack on Tenancingo, Cuscatlan Department, some 40 km from San Salvador.

According to unofficial reports, the attack began at midnight on Saturday. By early morning, there were a number of dead in the town. Later that morning the fighting grew more intense, when army reinforcements arrived to help the military patrols protecting the town. Air Force planes supported the Army troops' attempt to dislodge the subversives from the town, but the fighting continued through Sunday afternoon.

The road between Santa Cruz Michapa and Tenancingo was blocked by guerrilla barricades, built to ambush the military reinforcement units.

The people who managed to leave Tenancingo went to Santa Cruz Michapa and told of whole families being killed in the attack. Grief was visible on the faces of the residents of Tenancingo, who cried while they spoke about what had happened. Many residents left the town, heading for Cojutepeque and San Martin.

Many Tenancingo residents arrived in Santa Cruz Michapa carrying some of their belongings while others carried their small children.

The Green Cross came to the town to help the wounded, who were later transferred to medical centers in San Salvador and Cojutepeque.

On Sunday afternoon, a military convoy arrived to dislodge the guerrillas occupying Tenancingo. No reports were available yesterday afternoon as to whether the situation in Tenancingo has been brought under control by the Army.

100 Civilian Casualties

PA272352 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] The reports we are receiving from Tenancingo, 38 km northeast of San Salvador, are alarming. The army and the guerrillas have been involved in violent fighting in this town since Sunday. It has been unofficially reported that there are at least 100 civilian casualties. The Army has sustained some 55 casualties, including 30 dead. It has also been said that the guerrillas have suffered many casualties, but no details are available.

It has also been reported that fighting was underway this morning in La Joya and Rosario Tablon.

Havana Reports Army Casualties

PA280129 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] The Salvadoran Army had sustained 48 dead and 12 wounded and has lost 71 as prisoners in the fighting in the town of Tenancingo, which has been occupied by FMLN forces since last Sunday. According to a NOTISAL report based on information broadcast by Radio Farabundo Marti, the fighting began Sunday and lasted until Monday morning, when two companies from the Cazadores Battalion surrendered.

A few hours later, the regime's aircraft attacked Tenancingo, killing some 30 people, including women and children, and wounding 20. All of the casualties were Tenancingo residents.

During their occupation of the town, the rebels seized more than 90 rifles, 2 machine-guns, 1 cannon, 50 grenades, 1 mortar, and 3 military trucks. One plane was damaged by the guerrillas' fire.

This action, together with those in the Departments of San Miguel, La Union, and Morazan resulted in more than 300 Salvadoran Army casualties over the weekend.

FMLN REPORTS STATISTICS OF RECENT CAMPAIGN

PA261638 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Attention heroic people of El Salvador and members of the national and international press tuned to rebel Radio Farabundo Marti.

We are pleased to report to our listeners the general results to date, 25 September 1983, of the 21-day military campaign of our FMLN forces. During this period our forces have seized 84 weapons and 4 PRC-77 military transmitting radios; damaged 1 U.S.-made A-37 Dragonfly aircraft; totally destroyed 2 important bridges and 12 enemy military vehicles; taken 53 prisoners of war who heeded our advice to surrender; and inflicted 569 casualties on the enemy.

VENCEREMOS BROADCASTS FMLN ACTION ROUNDUP

PA270408 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Communique issued by the FMLN's Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade General Command on 26 September 1983 -- read by Commander Mercedes del Carmen Letona, alias Commander Luisa]

[Text] We wish to report the overall results obtained to date in our "Commander Lilian Mercedes Letona, Until Victory Always," operation, which is part of the "Independence, Liberty, and Democracy for El Salvador" campaign:

On 24 September, battalions from the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade's Lilian Mercedes Letona group took control of the town of Nuevo Eden de San Juan, north of San Miguel, which was guarded by a company from the Cobra Battalion of Cabanas Department and by 80 paramilitary personnel, totalling over 200 men.

During our operations on that day, we made our first contact at 1200 with enemy patrols, which were crossing the Lempa River to try to take positions and clear the way for the Cobra Battalion from Cabanas, which was coming to reinforce the post in Nuevo Eden de San Juan.

At around 1400, two enemy companies were transferred by helicopter to the eastern bank of the Lempa River, including the command company of the Cobra Battalion, known as the Tigres. Our forces in the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade engaged the two reinforcement companies in heavy fighting under intense and constant air support. At 1600, the enemy reinforcements were repelled and forced to flee in disarray. At the same time, our troops captured Major Napoleon Medina Garay, chief of the Cobra Battalion of Cabanas who was in the command company with the reinforcements that crossed the Lempa River. Members of our brigade were assigned to transfer Maj Medina Garay, who had been seriously wounded.

At that difficult moment for the enemy reinforcements, members of the paratroopers battalion were transported by helicopter to the area. One of the helicopters was damaged when crossing the Lempa River. The transfer of Maj Medina Garay and the airborne forces' landing prevented the total annihilation of the two reinforcement companies and the seizure of additional rifles and heavy weapons, including an 81-mm mortar that had been abandoned by the enemy in their hasty retreat.

After capturing Maj Medina Garay, our forces continued the siege and began a staggered attrition operation, which was maintained until yesterday. At 1800 on 25 September, our military forces withdrew from Nuevo Eden de San Juan and from the positions held on the commanding heights.

As a result of the fighting in the town of Nuevo Eden de San Juan and the battles against the reinforcements from the Cobra Battalion of Cabanas and the paratrooper battalion, our forces in the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade inflicted over 120 casualties on the enemy, including 58 dead; 2 lieutenants, Captain Carlos Hernandez Hernandez, 2 corporals, and a sergeant were wounded; and 7 prisoners of war were taken, 3 of them soldiers, 3 paramilitarymen, and Maj Napoleon Medina Garay. In addition, our forces seized 72 rifles, 1 90-mm cannon with 30 rounds, 1 M-79 grenade launcher, 1 RPG-2 rocket launcher, 1 81-mm mortar grenade, 35,000 cartridges, 50 hand grenades, 1 TRC-77 radio, and 1 nightscope.

The capture of Maj Medina Garay, chief of the Cobra Battalion and second in command of the Cabanas Detachment No 2, constitutes a heavy blow against the dictatorship. Napoleon Medina Garay belongs to Major Roberto D'Aubuisson's group and has led the death squads' operations in Sonsonate, Cabanas, and other sectors. During Army military operations, he perpetrated massacres in several communities in Morazan and other departments. Because of these actions, his name was included on the list of 16 Army officers in the fascist sector of the Salvadoran Armed Forces, for which he was given the name of the butcher of Junquillo, a town in Morazan where on his orders and in actions he directly carried out, hundreds of peasant families were murdered.

Maj Medina Garay's physical and moral integrity has been respected. He was critically wounded and has been transferred. Last night, 25 September, our medical staff performed emergency surgery. The results of the operation were positive, but he is still on the critical list.

Our "Commander Lilian Mercedes Letona, Until Victory Always" operation, commemorating the eighth anniversary of the fall in combat of our hero Rafael Arce Zablah, have been extended to other sectors of the country.

From 23 September to date, the Francisco Martinez group of the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade has reported the occupation of San Jorge, San Rafael Oriente, Intipuca, and the town of Chirilagua, in San Miguel Department. The same group also reported fighting all day yesterday against members of the Cazadores Battalion of San Miguel, which was forced to flee in disarray on the read from San Rafael Oriente to the town of El Transito. It has additionally conducted two ambushes, one between El Delirio and Chirilagua and another at (?El Tecomatal) in La Union Department, or on the road leading to that department.

The results of the operations in San Rafael Oriente and San Jorge are as follows: 23 rifles were seized and 10 soldiers were killed. The results of the operation to seize Intipuca include 12 rifles and 7,000 cartridges seized, as well as 6 dead and 12 wounded among the dictatorship's forces. The results of the two ambushes are: Over 30 casualties were inflicted and 2 enemy troops transport trucks were totally destroyed. The results of the operation to seize Chirilagua: 8 rifles were recovered and several still undetermined casualties were inflicted.

The overall results of the military operations that were initiated on 23 September by the Rafael Antonio Arce Zablah Brigade in honor of our revolutionary heroine, Lilian Mercedes Letona, and which today, 26 September, commemorates with new and great victories the memory of our revolutionary hero Rafael Antonio Arce Zablah are as follows:

1. Seven towns were occupied by our forces: Nuevo Eden de San Juan, San Simon Gualococti, San Jorge, San Rafael Oriente, Intipuca, and Chirilaugua, in San Miguel and Morazan Departments.

2. We inflicted 178 casualties on the dictatorship's Army. These do not include unconfirmed casualties. Among them are 58 confirmed dead and 3 officers, 2 corporals, and 1 sergeant wounded.

3. Seven prisoners of war, three of them soldiers, three paramilitarymen, and Maj Napoleon Medina Garay.

4. The recovery of 115 rifles, 1 90-mm cannon with 30 rounds, 1 M-79 grenade launcher, 1 RPG-2 rocket launcher, 1 81-mm mortar grenade, 42,000 cartridges, 50 handgrenades, 1 TRC-77 radio, and 1 nightscope.

5. Two troop transport vehicles were destroyed, and one helicopter was damaged.

Our forces in the Rafael Antonio Arce Zablah are advancing firmly and victoriously in the achievement of independence, liberty, and democracy for El Salvador. The ideals and goals set by our heroes Rafael Arce Zablah, Lilian Mercedes Letona, and Francisco Martinez are increasingly becoming a reality. No one and nothing will stop the victorious march that we have begun. We do not want poverty for our people. We do not want injustice. We do not want repression. Long live our revolutionary heroes Rafael Antonio Arce Zablah, Lilian Mercedes Letona, and Francisco Martinez! Long live all of the heroic fighters who have died in this victorious campaign! Long live the heroic and invincible fighters of the Rafael Antonio Arce Zablah Brigade! Long live the FMLN, the vanguard of our people! Revolution or death, we shall win!

[Dated] Morazan, 26 September 1983

[Signed] Commanders Jorge Melendez, Ana Sonia Medina, Ana Guadalupe Martinez, Juan Ramon Medrano, Claudio Rabindranath Armijo, Mercedes del Carmen Letona, and Joaquin Villalobos

HAVANA REPORTS FMLN CAPTURES ARMS, FIVE TOWNS

FL261707 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1417 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Salvadoran guerrillas inflicted more than 100 casualties on the Salvadoran Army and captured approximately 50 weapons of different calibers when the guerrillas took five towns in eastern El Salvador this weekend. Radio Venceremos reported that the fighting continued for the third consecutive day in the eastern Departments of San Miguel and Morazan, where FMLN forces are operating.

The guerrilla commander Joaquin Villalobos read a military communique in which the FMLN announced the capture of 5 rifles and 35,000 rounds of ammunition plus other arms. Villalobos said the guerrillas had taken the towns of Eden de San Juan, San Jorge, and San Rafael de Oriente, in San Miguel Department, and San Simon and (Guacalucti) in Morazan Department.

FMLN RADIO ATTACKS ENTERPRISE ASSOCIATION

PA262232 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] The National Association of Private Enterprise, ANEP, and the Armed Forces [words indistinct] are destroying newspapers and radio stations and are interfering with the FMLN's radio.

Recently, one of the death squads [words indistinct] commanded by Roberto D'Aubuisson and Vides Casanova, who are being used by ANEP, placed bombs in two San Salvador radio stations. This death squad, which is named after Maximiliano Hernandez Martinez, the notorious puppet who murdered more than 30,000 peasants in 1932, then claimed credit for these attacks in a public communique. Now, the organization that controls the death squads and the repressive corps, ANEP, has been very upset by the fact that the Maximiliano Hernandez Martinez squad publicly claimed credit for the attack, since everyone identifies the death squads with ANEP and the high command oligarchy.

Thus, they are now trying to rectify the situation by blaming the FMLN. However, no matter how often ANEP attacks the popular forces, all of the people realize that it is ANEP and its army that destroyed El INDEPENDIENTE and LA CRONICA, and attacked [words indistinct] and have killed journalists. ANEP and its army did this. While they talk about democracy and respect for human rights, they carry on with their institutional terrorism.

However, ANEP is right about one thing: It was indeed terrorists who placed bombs in the two San Salvador radio stations. It was the terrorists who exist in the country, those who have used terror as a form of government for more than 50 years: the oligarchy, the high command, and their organizations -- ANEP, the Nationalist Republican Alliance, the death squads, and the repressive corps.

ERP GROUP ABROAD PRAISES COMMANDER LETONA

PA261926 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Statement by militants of the People's Revolutionary Army working abroad in Radio Venceremos' International News Command; no date or place given -- read by announcer]

[Text] Companeros of the General Command of the People's Revolutionary Army [ERP] and of the political committee of our Salvadoran Revolutionary Party, PRS: The militants and members of our party who work in the International News Command, COMIIN, a Radio Venceremos structure abroad, met after being informed of the death of Commander Lilian Mercedes Letona to pay homage to this dear, revolutionary, and exemplary companera, and to tell our General Command and the ERP fighters the following:

Those of us who work on information and propaganda abroad have decided to pay homage to the heroes of our organization by increasing our work in the ideologic struggle in line with what Commander Clelia told us when she got out of jail: It is easier to face death in combat than to defeat individualism, the self-interest we carry with us. She added: This is the most difficult challenge we constantly face as we shape our future.

We reaffirm our disposition to tackle any task the revolution may demand of us, following the example of companera Commander Clelia, who was always prepared to give her life to secure her people's liberty and happiness. We ask the ERP General Command to name our political school after Commander Lilian Mercedes Letona, Commander Clelia. We are firmly committed to struggle for the Salvadoran revolution until we win or die.

EXILED MAJANO VIEWS POLITICAL SITUATION

FL261559 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0314 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- The talks between the Salvadoran rebels and government must focus only on the political aspects because if the talks include military affairs, it will cause mistrust and the hardening of positions, said Colonel Adolfo Majano today.

Majano, chief of the young military officers who took over power in El Salvador at the end of 1979 and was later displaced by the harder sector in 1981, granted an interview to ANSA in Mexico City, in which he said that dialogue constitutes progress, even if it does not lead to a solution. Nevertheless, he warned that an effective political agreement in El Salvador must include all of the country's forces and not just be the result of an agreement between the government and the FMLN and FDR.

Majano, who now lives in Mexico, said that it is possible to discuss participation of the FDR -- the political branch of the insurgents -- in forming a future government, but that in the military aspect this could mean a possible participation of the guerrillas in the army, which would cause mistrust.

Majano labeled this subject as taboo, pointing out that a feasible solution for this situation could be a reorganization of the Armed Forces, a reorientation of its role with a democratic meaning, and even a change of command in the Armed Forces. He conceded that the elections in themselves are not a solution to the conflict unless these include all of the country's important political forces: On the terms that the elections are now planned, these will be nothing more than a metaphor for the solution of El Salvador's problems, he said.

According to Majano, by agreeing to participate in a dialogue the insurgents' political objective could be to obtain wider representation and importance abroad. However, he conceded that the United States is using the elections to include the left in the election process.

The situation in El Salvador is now more critical and consequently the negotiations of the Contadora Group are more important because these are a valuable channel for foreign peace initiatives that forestall Washington's intervention, he said. In addition, the Contadora Group sets the precedent of being a Latin American peace initiative on a regional problem, he added.

He said that U.S. policy in the region has encouraged people with hard and intransigent positions, even if this may not have been the intention. He said that the Salvadoran situation will not make progress in the short term but that progress has been made in the respect for human rights.

I believe that the Salvadoran Armed Forces are the sole representatives of military power and any future change would imply a reorganization of their system, said Majano. Nevertheless, he did not explain what the future role would be of the FMLN, the armed branch of the insurgents.

RADIO FARABUNDO MARTI SCORES U.S. AID TO MAGANA

PA241441 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Imperialist aggression is increasing in our country as the Reagan Administration approves $64.8 million in military and $158 million in economic aid for Magana's regime, which will only make the oligarchs more powerful, fill the pockets of the corrupt, and prolong the war against our people. The Salvadoran Government is doing everything in its power to get this aid, which the United States still has to approve.

We denounce this new offense against our sovereignty and the Salvadoran people's dignity.

FDR'S UNGO INTERVIEW ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH U.S.

AU271005 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 22 Sep 83 p 4

[Report by POLITIKA special correspondent Dj. Julius]

[Text] Managua, 21 Sep -- "We have told Mr Stone, President Ronald Reagan's special ambassador to Central America, that we are willing to hold talks and negotiate with the United States on all issues that are important for the U.S. national security, that is, such issues as, for instance, those of foreign bases in the territory of El Salvador, securing free and guaranteed sea access to American ports and waters, the source of armaments for the future Government and Army of El Salvador, the level of these armaments, and the like. For we understand that the United States has strategic interests in El Salvador and Central America, and we are willing to negotiate with them because we want to hae good relations with the United States and do not seek confrontation but rather cooperation."

This is what Dr Guillermo Ungo, president of the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) of El Salvador, that is, head of the El Salvador united opposition political opposition linked with the insurgent guerrilla organizations, told us in a very exhaustive interview which lasted nearly 3 hours.

We met Ungo in Managua where he was visiting to meet with the leaders of the insurgent military and political organizations of El Salvador and with leaders of Nicaragua. Ungo emphasizes that, as a result of its military, political, and economic intervention and its support for the El Salvador regime and Army, the United States has also become an unavoidable factor in the search for a peaceful solution in his country, and that this has prompted the insurgent and opposition military and political organizations to accept negotiations with the United States as unavoidable and necessary.

We Want To Prove In Deeds That We Are Nonaligned

"For this reason we say that we are willing to negotiate with the United States and prove to it in deeds that we are nonaligned and that we want to have the best relations with the United States under the condition that it will respect our independence, and we will respect its legitimate security interests," Ungo pointed out.

It is on this basis, Ungo continued, that two meetings have been held between American special ambassador Richard Stone and representatives of the FDR and the Farabundo Marti Front for National Liberation (FMLN), the insurgent military organization. He says that, in these talks which he considers significant and positive especially because they were held in an atmosphere of openness and mutual respect, the American side did not yet show any readiness to "deal with the essence of issues" but the FDR-FMLN side used the opportunity to present its views and to also raise the questions in which the American Government is undoubtedly interested.

"We have no illusions, but we are not pessimists, although we clearly realize that, at present, on the American side there is no real readiness to negotiate, and that the military approach to the El Salvador civil war is still predominant in Washington because it is believed that this conflict can perhaps still be solved by force, with a military victory of the El Salvador Army over the insurgents and American intervention," Ungo emphasized.

The American policy simultaneously follows two tracks, war and dialogue, and in this connection dialogue currently serves the war. We know this. However, we think that the realities in El Salvador where the insurgents cannot be defeated by force or made by force to waver in their actions, as well as the realities on the international scene where the American policy in El Salvador is more and more isolated and criticized, could change this situation and that Stone's dialogue with us could open the way to negotiations for peace, Ungo says.

Parallel Dialogue

He further outlines his first impressions of what he calls a "parallel dialogue" with the peace commission appointed by the El Salvador Government, whose representatives the FDR and FMLN delegates met once in Bogota thanks to the mediation by Colombian President Betancourt and Costa Rican President Monge.

Ungo points out that although this commission is not representative and lacks the authority to negotiate, but rather "plays the role of some kind of mediator" between the insurgents and the government, the FDR and FMLN accepted the first preliminary dialogue with it, that is, with two of its members, believing that this is the way to show the serious readiness of the insurgent and opposition organizations to negotiate for a political solution in El Salvador.

In Favor of Transitional, National, Plurastic Government

The FDR president adds that, in El Salvador a difficult struggle is being waged in which many people are dying every day, and that there will be many more victims if readiness to negotiate does not materialize.

Although the military position of the insurgents is improving, and they are so strong today that the army could not defeat them without direct American military intervention, the military and political organizations of the insurgents are united in the view that the search for a peaceful and political solution of the conflict must continue in order to prevent additional victims of the civil war.

"For this reason, we propose -- as the first and most important task and as the main immediate goal of negotiations with the government (when the United States will allow it to negotiate) -- to form a broad transitional national pluralistic government, such as those that have existed in El Salvador in the past, for instance a government like the one after the 1979 coup. A provisional, transitional, and pluralistic government, in which the FDR and FMLN naturally would have to participate, could prepare the ground for the elections which we certainly do not reject as the ultimate result of the solution and agreement," Ungo concluded.

GUATEMALA

ANDRADE SAYS CONTADORA DOCUMENT NOT YET SIGNED

PA271325 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] Guatemala has not yet decided whether it will sign the Contadora Group's document of intention. The group sent Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega here for this purpose. Asked about this today, Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade asked his secretary to tell journalists trying to interview him that Head of State Oscar Mejia will decide whether the document is to be signed.

The Panamanian foreign minister arrived here Friday on a leg of a tour of the entire Central American area, where he presented the various governments with the Contadora Group's document of intention on the Central American crisis.

VALUE ADDED TAX TO BE REDUCED BY 3 PERCENT

PA280350 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2253 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Guatemala, 27 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- The Guatemalan military government has decided to decrease the value added tax (IVA) by 3 percent as of 1 October, government spokesman Ramon Zelada Carrillo reported today. The government officials in charge of the national economy, Zelada Carrillo added, considered the opinions of the various Guatemalan sectors in deciding to leave the IVA at 7 percent.

GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ON ESCALATION OF VIOLENCE

PA272156 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] Ramon Zelada Carrillo, the head of state's deputy secretary of public relations, has declared that the increase in violance in the capital and in the interior over the last few days is an orchestrated campaign to destroy the government's plan to return to constitutional order as soon as possible.

Zelada Carrillo noted that, for various reasons, groups of self-motivated gangsters have been appearing in the country in the last few months. These gangsters, who have engaged in violent actions that affect Guatemalans indiscriminately, are trying to prevent the implementation of a constitutional system.

He said that despite a recent increase in violence in Guatemala, General Mejia Victores' government has not yet considered implementing some kind of state of exception to safeguard Guatemala's order and security. The deputy secretary noted that the security forces have received instructions to treat the citizens as they should be treated, while also fighting crime. This, he added, is evidenced by the various operations that we have been carrying out as an initial step in reducing violence and crime.

In conclusion , he warned that the executive branch will not take any special measures to safeguard order and security without carefully assessing them first, because it does not want to hurt the interests of the Guatemalan people or do damage to the government's policy to improve Guatemala's international image.

ARMY REPORTS CLASH WITH REBELS, CASUALTIES

PA272302 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] According to reports issued by the Army's public relations office, unidentified armed men have been harassing the residents of Ixquisis, San Juan Ixcoy, and Huehuetenango, stealing their food and other belongings. The Army, learning of these incidents, sent a military patrol to the town on 24 September. The patrol clashed with the unidentified men, and a fight ensued in which one rebel was killed and others were apparently wounded.

The Army's public relations office added that initial investigations at the site of the incident established that the rebel who was killed called himself Commander Felipe. It was aslo disclosed that the troops took Felipe's weapon, his personal equipment, ammunition, three radios, and documents that allowed his identification.

MEXICAN AMBASSADOR ON REFUGEE HEALTH PROBLEMS

PA231356 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 22 Sep 83 p 2

[Text] The 24,000 Guatemalans in Mexico face many problems. Mexican Ambassador to Guatemala Brigadier General Rafael Macedo Figueroa told a PRENSA LIBRE reporter yesterday that Guatemalan refugees in Mexico who still remain in Mexican border towns are confronting various health problems. The Mexican diplomat said that these people have settled in 42 refugee camps in the departments of Chiapas, Tabasco, and Guintana Roo.

Many of them are suffering from gastrointestinal, respiratory, or skin problems, he said.

They are receiving attention from a specific commission formed by representatives of the Government, Labor, Foreign Relations, and Health Secretariats. Gen Macedo said that there refugees can return to Guatemala whenever they wish to do so. Ambassador Macedo's statement contradicts Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade, who said that there are 10,000 to 12,000 Guatemalan refugees in Mexico.

ORPA LEADER SEES CONTINUED CHANCE OF INTERVENTION

PA280353 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] Guatemalan guerrilla leader Gaspar Ilon has said that although the Contadora Group might prevent the regionalization of the Central American conflict, the possibility of intervention in the area still cannot be dismissed. In an interview given to the Mexican newspaper UNOMASUNO, the commander in chief of the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms [ORPA] said that, given that possibility, the determination and the willingness to continue the struggle under any conditions are necessary.

Ilon said that General Oscar Mejia Victores, head of the Guatemalan regime, is following Washington's plans to the letter, and is directly commiting himself to Washington's interventionist policy in exchange for the U.S. Government's political, economic, and military support. The U.S. Government made the fall of Gen Efrain Rios Montt possible.

As for the internal work and evolution of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, Ilon stressed that much progress has been achieved in unifying the guerrilla forces that comprise the organization.

HONDURAS

GOVERNMENT SOLDIER WOUNDED IN EL ESPINO ACTION

PA271656 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Report by Juan Jose Espinal]

[Excerpt] I just returned from El Espino, a border post in the jurisdiction of San Marcos de Colon, Choluteca Department, which has been under FSLN attack. The post has been hit by FSLN artillery from Nicaraguan territory. As a result of the attack, Lieutenant Miranda, who is in charge of the border post, was wounded in the leg, and as unidentified Honduran soldier who was also wounded is in critical condition.

The residents of El Espino and nearby areas have been evacuated to San Marcos de Colon.

ARMED FORCES DENY GUNNING DOWN FOUR YOUTHS

PA271714 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 26 Sep 83 p 17

[Text] The Honduran Armed Forces yesterday denied a press report that military helicopters had gunned down four youths in Rio Blanco, Olancho Department. According to the report, several Air Force helicopters on reconnaissance flights machinegunned four youths who were returning home after cutting sugarcane on Wednesday. The report adds that the helicopter's occupants mistook the sugarcane sticks the youths were carrying for rifles and began firing at them. One of the youths was machinegunned while bathing in a river, the report said.

The denial released by the Armed Forces Public Relations Directorate says: The Honduran Armed Forces Public Relations Directorate clarifies the following in connection with the report published by the daily newspaper LA TRIBUNA on Saturday, 24 September, to the effect that "four unarmed youths were shot dead by occupants of helicopters."

1. The report is absolutely false, and we regret that its author was misled in the exercise of his profession.

2. We ask the national media to check with the appropriate sources before publishing reports concerning the Armed Forces in order to avoid speculation, which only serves to confuse and mislead public opinion.

Tegucigalpa, Central District, 24 September 1983

[Signed] Honduran Armed Forces Public Relations Directorate

POLICE FIND, DEFUSE BOMB IN SAN PEDRO SULA

PA271701 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 26 Sep 83 p 56

[Excerpts] Panic spread yesterday morning through San Pedro Sula when special security personnel began evacuating the Aquarius Movie Theatre and nearby residences, claiming that a powerful bomb had been planted and was about to explode at the Plaza Cristal commercial center.

While curiosity seekers stood a good distance away and residents fled their homes, dogs that had been brought from the United States searched for and found the bomb. The police later said that it was in an average-sized box in the commercial center's garbage area, but that they did not know how powerful it was or where it was manufactured.

A group of approximately 10 policemen defused the bomb without incident in about 30 minutes. It was taken away in an armored car for further investigation.

KIDNAPPED LEADER ACCUSED OF RECRUITING GUERRILLAS

PA271[illegible]7 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Excerpt] The chief of the National Investigation Department yesterday accused Miguel Angel Ortiz, who was reportedly kidnapped by members of a paramilitary group, of being in charge of recruiting peasants to join the guerrillas.

Ortiz, a member of the Christian Democratic Party and assistant chief to the National Electoral Tribunal Departmental Section, was also accused yesterday by one of the persons supposedly in charge of recruiting youths sent to Cuba and Nicaragua to be trained in guerrilla warfare.

CALL TO INFORM ON SUBVERSIVES QUESTIONED

PA241525 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Station commentary: "Preventive Measures To Protect Democracy"]

[Text] In a statement 3 days ago, the commander of the Honduran Armed Forces warned of the threat to the country due to the presence of subversives trained in Cuba, Nicaragua, and the Soviet Union who have entered Olancho Department. The Armed Forces commander asked for the Honduran people's cooperation to help the security forces safeguard the country's security.

He said that they can do this first of all by carrying their proper identification as well as that of the vehicles they drive, and that secondly they can report any person who might be suspected of undertaking or supporting subversive actions.

We don't see anything wrong with having the people cooperate with the authorities by carrying their identification papers. In Honduras, we are used to moving about without carrying a document to identify ourselves. It is a very usual for us to move about without a Social Security card or an identification card. We even drive without our licenses. This bad habit of nor carrying our identification documents is inadvisable in any country at any time. The Armed Forces commander's request that all Hondurans carry their identification documents is an obligation for all law-abiding citizens.

However, we are concerned about the Armed Forces commander's statement that we are duty-bound to report any person who is suspected of carrying out or supporting subversive actions. We understand that the security forces have the duty of watching over order when it is threatened by foreign forces. In the Marxist and socialist camp countries, security protection is so essential that this task reaches infamous dimensions and levels. In Cuba, the duty to safeguard security reached such an extreme that young people denounced their own parents and relatives for harboring ideas against the Cuban Marxist regime. The spying reached such low levels that not even fundamental family ties were respected. In Nicaragua, the so-called neighborhood committees are the most denigrating means of persecution and spying. However, all of this is justified as a means to defend the Marxist revolution. In extreme rightist countries like Chile, in order to remain in power, there is also a despotic government that has established the most cruel and inhuman systems that are justified as a means to safeguard security.

The call for citizens to inform the authorities about any individual suspected of carrying out or being linked to the subversive actions is very dangerous. The call for people to report suspicious individuals has already had grave consequences. Unjust arrests have left innocent people branded and mistreated by the security forces which, wanting to fulfill their mission, let themselves be misled by these citizen reports. Needless to say, innocent people who are victims of revenge due to personal fights are affected by this situation. Anyone who has a fight with another family and who is led by rancor can report to the police that an individual is suspected of being a subversive or of covering up subversive actions.

Some dangerous situations previously occurred in our country when the civil defense committees were formed. Those committees had the patriotic objective of consolidating civil defense in the case of a foreign attack on the country. With the unity of the civilian sectors, no fifth column can operate in the country and the military forces obtain their best reinforcement -- the support of a unified civilian sector. However, many cruel and evil people who wanted to harm others circulated false rumors to discredit entire families, accusing them of being linked to subversives. The security forces, wanting to fulfill their duty, let themselves be misled by those reports and arrested and mistreated many people. As a result, they left many people resentful.

These things must be considered. We believe that the request for the people's cooperation by reporting suspicious individuals is a dangerous weapon, because it is a double-edged sword. This measure can become a dangerous boomerang, because as a result of false reports, many innocent people can be affected due to personal revenge or intrigue. No good Honduran wants people to become resentful of the authorities. That is why we think one has to be very careful when the population is urged to report people suspected of subversive actions. This request could give free rein to the lowest passions and make the most evil people jump with joy at this great opportunity to inform on any individual they don't like.

NICARGUA

COMMANDER DANIEL ORTEGA ADDRESSES UNGA

PA271806 Managua International Service in Spanish 1512 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Speech by Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, at the 38th UN General Assembly session in New York -- live]

[Excerpts] This 38th session of the UN General Assembly has begun in a climate of world tensions which, in other instances during this century, have been the prelude to increasingly destructive wars with irreparable losses of human life, poverty, and culture, which have constituted historic steps backward in humankind's development.

Mr President and Messrs Delegates: Our concern is boundless because it is evident that there will be vanquishers, but only vanquished in a third global conflagration, including those who are vying for military hegemony by fanning the flames of war. The impact of the proliferation of nuclear weapons following the dropping of the initial bombs on the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki cannot be underestimated.

The afforts of peoples who demand freedom and peace crash against the attitude of those who, defending their monopolistic interests, deny the legitimate aspirations of peoples. This monopolistic policy results in the violation of human rights of our peoples, because while $800 million is squandered on weapons and efforts are made to increase the number of sophistication of those weapons, 46,000 children are dying daily from hunger, malnutrition, and lack of medical care.

Those who madly dream of upsetting the strategic balance and imposing an arms race are committing genocide. Those who invoke the name of the Lord and human rights to justify a climate of cold war, larger budgets for atomic weapons, and further aggression against peoples in various places on earth are committing genocide.

Today, when the threat of nuclear war has taken on uncontrollable dimensions, it is urgent that realistic agreements within the framework of the Geneva negotiations are reached. Let no further deadly rockets be emplaced. Let the development, production, stockpiling, and deployment of nuclear weapons be frozen. Let nuclear arsenals be reduced and eventually eliminated. International security can exist only after disarmament is general, after disarmament is complete. Let's deploy the rockets of peace and bury the rockets of war once and for all.

As a consequence of this arms race policy, an escalation of aggression has been unleashed in various parts of the globe, making the peoples of the Third World its victims.

With the complacency and encouragement of the U.S. and other governments, which ironically claim to be concerned about human rights, the racist Pretoria regime attacks and invades with impunity Mozambique, Angola, Zambia, Zimbabwe, the Seychelles, Lesotho, Botswana, and Swaziland in an attempt to consolidate and perpetuate apartheid and racism. Nicaragua condemns the racist South African regime and expresses solidarity with the Frontline States and their decision to support southern Africa's total liberation. We equally support the struggle of the Namibian people and their legitimate representative, SWAPO [Southwest African People's Organization], and demand the prompt implementation of Resolution 435 of the UN Security Council, as demanded at the OAU's latest summit meeting.

Amid democratic and humanist principles assumed from monopolistic and demagogic positions, peoples are held in a colonialist or neocolonialist status imposed by those so-called democracies. This is the case of the peoples of the Western Sahara and Puerto Rico, whose inalienable right to self-determination is still being violated; of the Palestinian people, whose right to form a state of their own continues to be denied; of the Korean people, whose country continues to be artificially divided; of the Cypriot, Cuban, Argentine, and Panamanian people, part of whose territory continues under foreign occupation or control; and of the Honduran people, whose sovereignty is intervened and whose territory is occupied by the U.S. Army. Nicaragua repudiates the situation of these territories and, consequently, supports the Saharan people's struggle and their representative, the Polisario Front.

Nicaragua demands the decolonization of Puerto Rico. It deems unacceptable any measure geared at changing the political status of that fraternal people without their explicit consent and participation.

Nicaragua confirms its support for the Palestinian cause in its just struggle to recover the territory that has been seized from it. We also endorse the convocation of an international meeting on Palestine with the full participation of the PLO, the United States, and the Soviet Union.

Nicaragua supports the reunification of Korea and the withdrawal of all foreign troops from that area. We reaffirm our support for the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Cyprus.

Nicaragua demands the devolution of the occupied territory in Guantanamo to Cuba, the lifting of the blockade, an end to spy flights that violate the airspace, and an end to the violations of the territorial waters of that fraternal nation.

The military aggression that took place in the Malvinas Islands has not been removed from the Latin American atmosphere. The intention of this aggression was to make permanent the colonial domination of that territory, which is a part of the Argentine nation. Nicaragua demands that the Decolonization Committee's decision on the status of the Malvinas Islands be heeded, fully endorsing the Argentine people's rights.

Once again we reiterate our support for Bolivia's legitimate and just demand for the recovery of a direct and useful outlet to the Pacific Ocean, with full sovereignty over it. We urge all states to declare their solidarity with this inalienable right of the Bolivian people.

As regards the tragic and dangerous conflict in Lebanon, the current crisis there is the direct result of the Zionist invasion and expansionist and hegemonic ambitions in the area. We appeal for the maintenance of the ceasefire so that all of that country's forces and sectors may advance along the path of reconciliation in order to safeguard that nation's sovereignty and put an end to the increasingly direct intervention of the powers currently involved.

This U.S. policy of military escalation has also been implemented in the form of increasing and continued provocations against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Nicaragua denounces and repudiates these actions while expressing its support for the Libyan Government and people.

This aggressive policy is also evident in Southeast Asia, where plans are being hatched against the peoples of Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea. Nicaragua ratifies its solidarity with [words indistinct], condemns those destabilizing plans and salutes the UN secretary general's efforts, as well as those of the Nonaligned Movement to promote a dialogue without preconditions among the countries of the region.

Meanwhile, in Afghanistan, the United Nations has also made appreciable efforts in the search for a political solution to the regional situation through its secretary general. Similar efforts have been made by the Nonaligned Movement, which has issued exhortations that Nicaragua endorses.

The war between Iran and Iraq is among the most painful problems in the current, dramatic world situation. Both are fraternal countries, members of the Nonaligned Movement. We join in the appeals for an end to this war so that, through negotiations, the two may achieve a just, honorable, and lasting peace.

Dialogue and a peaceful solution must also be found among the parties involved in the Chadian conflict while safeguarding that people's right to freely define their own future. We endorse the efforts made so far to achieve a solution that falls within the framework of both the anticolonialist principles and the OAU.

The aggressive and militaristic escalation that is evident in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America is also expressed in the form of overt and covert actions promoted by the U.S. Government against the Grenadian Government and people. Nicaragua condemns this destabilizing policy and demands respect for the self-determination of the Grenadian people and government.

Through the CIA, this aggressive escalation is also geared at overthrowing the revolutionary government in Suriname by promoting destabilizing actions against it. Nicaragua condemns these aggressive CIA actions and endorses Suriname's right to determine its own future, free from all interference and foreign pressure.

At its sixth summit meeting, the Nonaligned Movement reaffirmed its support for the social and economic transformations that President Salvador Allende began in Chile. In paying tribute to President Allende, Nicaragua endorses the Chilean people's legitimate aspirations for the restoration of their fundamental freedoms, human rights, and the policy of nonalignment that President Allende and the Popular Unity Government defended to the end.

After a long struggle led by General Omar Torrijos, the Panamanian people obtained the Torrijos-Carter treaties. However, their implementation has met with attempts to violate and hinder them. Furtherfore, the U.S. Government has continued to use Panamanian territory in the so-called Canal Zone to train the soldiers and mercenaries it later launches against the peoples of El Salvador and Nicaragua.

Abusing its presence in Panamanian territory, the United States uses the Southern Command's bases to smuggle tons of weapons, transfer U.S. troops, and send U-2, SR-71, and RC-135 spy planes in an effort to strengthen its aggressive policy against the Central American peoples.

Nicaragua demands the full implementation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties. It also demands that the U.S. Government stop using Panamanian territory in the so-called Canal Zone to launch aggressive actions against the Central American peoples.

Mr President, Messrs Delegates: This international situation, which constitutes an increasingly serious threat to peace, is directly related to the inequality of the exploitation suffered by our peoples at the hands of the developed countries. It is also related to the market economy, which has imposed an unjust international economic order, an economic order that has fostered the prosperity of those countries, that has grown at the expense of our underdevelopment, and that is handling the crisis it generated itself by transferring the bill of account to our nations.

The economic needs of the poor countries should no longer be manipulated through economic and military blackmail. The international community must reject all forms of economic discrimination and aggression. We repeat that in the face of the strategy of the rich creditors, it is necessary for the poor debtors to develop a strategy.

For the sake of our people, we have the obligations to form an organization of debtor countries, an organization that will allow us to unite in a single forum. Thus, we can prepare a world economic policy that will correspond to the interests of the majorities. The debt problem is not a unilateral one. Therefore, we must unite our efforts.

Mr President and delegates: The Central American region is not outside the increasing political and military tension. Our countries, historically deprived of the benefits that development brings, have been the victims of injustice and a lack of liberty. Today they are actively demanding their rights.

The current struggle of the Central American people has its origin in the expansionist policy of the United States of North America. In 1855, this expansionist policy resulted in the appropriation of large parcels of land in Mexico. In that year, this expansionist policy became evident militarily in Nicaragua through William Walker and his mercenaries. After a bloody struggle, they were defeated and expelled.

Since then, the various U.S. administrations have worked to install brutal regimes in the region for use as their main tool of domination. Since then, our countries have witnessed over and over again the landing of U.S. soldiers and direct U.S. intervention aimed at supporting tyrannical governments and at drowning the struggle of the people in blood.

This is how the U.S. governments became the best friends of tyrants such as Somoza, Ubico, Carias, and Hernandez. This is how the United States became the worst enemy of our people. U.S. democracy has meant hunger and exploitation for the peasants and workers of the region as well as great wealth for exploiting minorities.

The victory of the Nicaraguan revolution is only the result of this lengthy struggle against U.S. domination, which began in 1855 against Walker and concluded in July 1979 with the overthrow of Anastasio Somoza.

Our revolution won despite unjust U.S. policies. While it is true that during the first months after victory there was opportunity for a new type of relationship with the United States, with the arrival of the new administration in 1981 this effort was distorted and the big stick policy was again imposed along with gunboat diplomacy and the policy of terror. We can assert that at that point, in January 1981, the new U.S. Administration declared war on the Nicaraguan people. The strategy was clear: military aggression, plus economic aggression, plus defamatory and slanderous campaigns, plus campaigns to bring about international isolation, all designed to destablize the Nicaraguan revolution in order to destroy it. In this manner, they planned to placate the regional peoples' struggle, more specifically, the Salvadoran people's struggle. According to estimates prepared by the U.S. Administration's strategists, crushing the Nicaraguan revolution meant crushing the possibilities for change in Central America, and thus they could maintain the unjust situation and lack of freedom. Therefore, they decided to set up a military cordon against the fighting Salvadoran people and against the liberated Nicaraguan people. Since then, the U.S. military presence in the area has been increased overtly in both El Salvador and Honduras and covertly in Costa Rica.

Actions by the guardsmen of the former Somozist regime followed immediately. They were armed, financed, and directed by the U.S. Government through both the CIA and the Pentagon. They began their criminal operations against our people from their operations bases in Honduran territory. To these aggressive actions they would later add, from Costa Rican territory, foreign mercenaries and Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries, the Somozist vanguard. From its military base at the Southern Command in Panama, the United States began making spy flights over our territory using RC-135, SR-71, and U-2 planes. So far, 203 spy flights have been made, and there have been 512 violations of our airspace by Honduran Air Force aircraft and counterrevolutionary planes supplied by the CIA, which is carrying out tasks connected with supply, information, and attack, have entered our territory from their operations bases in Honduran and Costa Rican territory.

During that same priod, 1981-1983, we detected the presence of U.S. warships in our territorial waters on 34 occasions. Our territorial waters hve been violated 56 times; 24 of these violations came from Honduras and 32 from Costa Rica. These activities are aimed at infiltrating and supplying counterrevolutionary groups.

At first, these U.S. Administration operations, for which $19 million was approved, were done covertly. By early 1982, the Central Intelligence Agency had already drafted a plan for military escalation that was implemented late in 1982. Our people's response was quick, and between December 1982 and January 1983, those aggressions were defeated.

In February, the United States carried out joint maneuvers with the Honduran Army in an attempt to support the deployment of the counterrevolutionaries who had been launched on a new wave of invasion. They were defeated once again.

In July and September, the U.S. Government made new invasion attempts through the CIA, using the counterrevolutionaries and the Honduran Army. They continued the joint maneuvers with the Honduran Army near the Nicaraguan border.

In September, they began the so-called Ahuas Tara II maneuvers in an attempt to create a military situation involving the Honduran Army in support of the Salvadoran Army to threaten our revolution with a demonstration of force that does not dismiss the possibility of a blockade or direct aggression.

These Ahuas Tara II maneuvers have been accompanied by unprecedented naval maneuvers in the region. The naval maneuvers included the use of 19 warships manned by 16,484 men and up to 5,000 U.S. soldiers who have landed in Honduran territory.

These systematic military aggressions by the U.S. Government are more blatant each day, and between 1979 and 1983 have resulted in the deaths of 17 civilians and military personnel. Of the dead, 41 were teachers and 154 were people involved in productive activities. Also, 529 persons, among whom are workers, technicians, and students, have been kidnapped, 514 have been wounded. The armed people, in defense of their sovereignty, have annihilated 1,636 counterrevolutionaries and wounded 280.

I must add that because of this U.S. policy, our country has suffered losses through the destruction of ports, production facilities, construction vehicles, health centers, schools, and child care centers. These losses total more than 3 billion cordobas. This amount represents one fourth of our yearly investments.

This September, they began a new type of attack in an attempt to renew their escalation against Nicaragua with armoured aircraft coming from Honduran and Costa Rican territory. They have dropped 250-kilo bombs on the Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport, on schools, and on fuel tanks in the port of Corinto. These bombing actions are still going on. Included in these new U.S. escalation plans were the destruction of an oil receiving center deep in the Pacific Ocean 2 miles off our coast and other criminal actions directed at seriously affecting our economy. As we have already said, this aggressive activity is part of the increased U.S. military presence in the region. They have established new military and naval bases with new airports in Honduras, while organizing and directing the Salvadoran Army in its military actions against the Salvadoran patriots, and exerting greater pressure over regional governments in order to further implicate them in terrorist actions against Nicaragua.

Mr President, Messrs Delegates: Major efforts have been made to check the aggressive U.S. policy in the area and to promote dialogue and negotiation in the search for a political solution to existing problems. Through the Security Council and the secretary general, this organization has remained informed, alert, and active in these efforts.

The Nonaligned Movement has also adopted a stand clearly condemning this aggressive, destabilizing, and interventionist policy in the area, while endorsing efforts geared at politically solving the problems. In this peace effort, the steps taken by both Mexico and France to promote dialogue have been valuable. The activity carried out by Mexico, Colombia, Panama, and Venezuela within the so-called Contadora Group have been conscientiously endorsed by all those who are truly interested in a search for peace.

The position assumed by representatives of the U.S. Senate and Congress, by important sectors of the U.S. media, intellectuals, religious people, and the U.S. people in general, has been in line with the Central American peoples' desire for peace and their rejection of aggressive policies.

We might say that throughout the world, from various ideological positions, there is concurrence in condemning the aggressive and warmongering escalations in Central America and in demanding a dialogue to resolve the existing problems.

The U.S. Administration, however, violates all these efforts, rejecting in practice all the steps taken and quickly developing its own aggressive plans. The U.S. Administration is trying to ignore the failure of its regional policy. They have failed in their effort to destroy the Salvadoran patriots. They have also failed in their efforts to launch thousands of Somozist mercenaries against the Nicaraguan people in order to conquer positions, for our people are causing them more casualties and desertions every day.

Where are the successes of the U.S. policy in Central America? Where are its victories in El Salvador? Where are the U.S. palladins of freedom in Nicaragua?

The U.S. Administration's policy of attacks and aggressions in the region has already failed, and they have no alternative other than an ever-increasing and more direct involvement. This explains the presence of U.S. warships and troops, the presence of Mr Weinberger, the statements by Mr [name indistinct], and the demands of Mr Shultz, Mr Clark and Mr Casey, as well as the approval of a new $19 million fund to maintain covert operations against Nicaragua despite the vote in the U.S. Congress.

Mr President, Messrs Delegates: Nicaragua fought against imperialist domination and the Somozist dictatorship in search of peace, justice, and freedom. Nicaragua currently cultivates and defends that earnest desire for peace. It is our peoples' sacred right to demand it, achieve it, and defend it.

Yesterday we heard President Reagan say here at the United Nations that both in Central America and South America the United States is trying to discourage the use of force. We also heard him say that they are trying to build a framework that would make peaceful negotiations possible, thus endorsing a policy of removing the major powers from Third World conflict.

Therefore, we must expect a consistent policy in South Africa. Therefore, we must expect an immediate end to aggression in the Central American region, in other words, the immediate withdrawal of U.S. warships from our territorial waters and those of the region, the withdrawal of U.S. soldiers from the region, the withdrawal of U.S. Government support for the armed activity of Somozist guardsmen and other counterrevolutionary mercenaries, and the suspension of covert operations. Only specific steps such as these would prove the existence of a true political willingness to support the peace initiatives, the process of dialogue and negotiations to guarantee the security of all Central American states, and strict compliance with Resolution No 530 of the UN Security Council.

Nicaragua believes that as long as no specific steps are taken, there will be no way to find a solution to the regional crisis. We've said it and we repeat it here that in the first place we have to seek the security of the states being attacked and that feel attacked. Nicaragua is the most threatened and attacked country in our continent. It is threatened and attacked by an extraregional power which openly defends this policy. Consequently, to the extent that military aggression increases, we have the right and sovereign obligation to better arm our people to defend against aggression. We repeat: The United States must withdraw its attacking forces from the area and stop its policy of aggression. Agreements that guarantee the security of all the states of the region must be reached. An end must be put to Honduran participation in the aggression against Nicaragua and the Salvadoran people. A solution to the Salvadoran conflict must be found with the full participation of the Salvadoran patriots. Then and only then we will be in a condition to discuss the problems of weapons and advisers.

The U.S. Government has been using various pretexts to justify its aggressive policy in the region. It once mentioned that Nicaragua represented a threat because of an alleged flow of weapons to El Salvador. On other occasions it has been said that the problem boils down to an alleged East-West confrontation in the area. The United States has also expressed concern over democracy in Nicaragua. However, they have made it clear lately that the problem is the existence of a free Nicaragua. This must draw attention to the inconsistent and unstable U.S. policy. They are unable -- as they have been unable in the past -- to see the root of the problems. This root lies in the expansionist policy they used in the 19th century for the first time and have continued to use in the present.

Nicaragua has earned itslef the right to be free, and this right must be respected. Nicaragua has defined itself as a nonaligned country and this right must be respected. Nicaragua is building its democracy and this sovereign Nicaraguan right to determine its internal regime -- the type of democracy it wants -- is a right that only belongs to the Nicaraguan people. It is a right that is not negotiable or discussable and must be respected.

Mr President, Messrs Delegates: Avoiding a conflagration in Central America is an obligation that concerns all the members of the international community who defend the principles of the UN Charter.

In effect, over the past year the Nonaligned Movement -- which held a special meeting at the ministerial level through its Coordinating Bureau in Managua in January and also met at the chiefs of state and government level during the 6th Summit in New Delhi in March -- has expressed its firm support for efforts made to achieve a peaceful settlement of the problems of our region.

In its Resolution No 530, the UN Security Council also issued an urgent call to the states to support the Contadora Group's efforts to iron out differences through a frank and constructive dialogue. Despite these calls and efforts, the Central American situation continues to become more complicated. Aggressions against Nicaragua have increased and intensified. Threats, intimidation, and intervention are being used. An attempt is being made to impose the so-called vital interests of a great power over the delicate efforts to achieve Central American peace and coexistence based on full respect for the sovereignty of every nation in the region.

Nicaragua will never attack any country, but it will defend itself from aggression regardless of the size or strength of the aggressor. We know that the United States, that military power, is threatening Nicaragua. Every time Nicaragua has been attacked and invaded, it has defended itself and fought back.

Nicaraguans will always be ready to face, resist, and defeat new imperialist interventions. In the face of this situation, this assembly must give a new boost and support to peaceful efforts through a new, urgent call to all states to abstain from carrying out actions and rescind decisions already made which aggravate the situation in the region. To this end, Nicaragua is requesting that the Central American problem -- which threatens peace, sovereignty, and the right of the Central American people to self-determination -- be considered as an urgent topic on the agenda of this 38th UN General Assembly.

Mr President, Messrs Delegates: This 38th UN General Assembly has met during moments of pain and suffering of our peoples and of unprecedented threats for the future of humankind. There is still time to aviod a catastrophe. Voices and wills, but above all actions, must be united to denounce and unmask irrational positions and strengthen rational positions.

This isn't the time to ignore the situation. It isn't the time for timid and hesitant positions even at the risk of facing more difficult situations. What is at stake goes beyond private interests. It is everyone's duty, and in this case it is the duty of all of us who don't have an atomic weapon or the economic power to demand peace and fight for it with all the moral strength of our peoples. Thank you. [applause]

Holds News Conference

PA280040 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 27 Sep 83

[New conference held by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua, at the United Nations in New York on 27 September; questioners not identified -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Commander Ortega, on behalf of the Association of UN Correspondents, I welcome uou to this news conference. As has been announced, it will last 30 minutes. I would like to begin by asking the following question. The main point of your speech this morning was the lack of UN action on the current situation in Central America. What draft resolution are you proposing on this issue?

[Ortega] The assembly must ratify positions on the need to stop the escalation of attacks in the Central American region, the urgent need for the U.S. troops and warships to withdraw from Central America, the urgent need to stop the covert operations against Nicaragua, and, as a result, the need for efforts to seek peace.

[Question] Nicaragua's (?intention) to obtain better and more weapons (?is known). From whence would they come and to what kind of weapons are you referring? For example, are you referring to modern airplanes and missiles?

[Ortega] From the moment of the triumph of the Nicaraguan revolution, we have been making efforts to seek support, in terms of arms, from all nations willing to supply them. We are pursuing that same policy. We are not seeking a specific weapon. Instead, we seek support from all countries that wish to provide support to Nicaragua.

[Question] Commander, [words indistinct] Contadora to the General Assembly. It is also known that some of the Contadora Group countries and many Central Americans have expressed their opposition [words indistinct]. Will Nicaragua insist [words indistinct]?

[Ortega] Above all else, what is at stake here is the security of the Central American peoples, independent of the [word indistinct] policy of some Central American countries. The United Nations is a world forum; I don't think that there is a more qualified forum than the United Nations. One would be disregarding reality and hiding one's head in the sand like an ostrich if one did not want to raise and discuss Central America's problems in order to help to solve them. Therefore, we think that, for the good of the Central American peoples and within the true search for peace and for a solution to the region's problems, the Central American governments should support this initiative by which the topic of Central America would become a UN issue.

[Question] What have the Contadora Group's actions meant for Central American security? Doesn't the fact that Nicaragua today requested that the topic be included on the UN agenda represent a chance in strategy, as it was thought that the Contadora Group would present this initiative jointly?

[Ortega] I feel that the Contadora efforts have been very important. They have been Latin American efforts that have obtained great international support. They have led to specific advances. The efforts have yielded fruit as far as negotiations are concerned. On the other hand, the military situation is advancing much more rapidly. There is increasing and more direct U.S. involvement in the region, which is further complicating the situation and by which the United States is directly attacking the Contadora effort. The U.S. actions attack and weaken the Contadora effort. The proposal that the 38th assembly include the topic of Central America is a logical effort to strengthen the peace efforts, for Nicaragua' strategy has been to strengthen the policy of peace in any case. Contadora wants to find political solutions to problems and to strengthen the policy of peace. Taking the topic to the General Assembly means strengthening the Contadora efforts, strengthening the efforts that are being carried out and that must continue if peace is to be secured.

[Question] Nicaragua has repeatedly called for negotiations with the United States; has it thrown in the towel or does is still hope for some kind of talks with Washington?

[Ortega] I think that in a situation of conflict like ours, and, indeed, in any conflict, dialogue can never be rejected. It should never be rejected, not even in the worst of circumstances. Nicaragua has maintained its willingness to talk with the United States. It still has this willingness. Certain contacts have been made with Mr Stone, the U.S. Government representative dealing with these problems. The fact that these efforts do not coincide with U.S. [word indistinct] steps doesn't mean that contacts should not continue.

[Question] Commander, according to news reports from Nicaragua before you left for New York, you said that Nicaragua has the right to arm itself. In answering a question on whether or not you plan to purchase planes, it is true that you said that? If you are going to buy planes, how many planes do you have? What do you want them for?

[Ortega] I must tell you that this isn't new. We would only be making use of a sovereign right that attaches to all countries on earth. In our case, this is more than reasonable, because we are the victims of an attack. Therefore, we have the right to arm ourselves. To arm ourselves means to meet all of the needs demanded by Nicaragua's defense, taking into account, above all else, the kind of attack from which Nicaragua is suffering.

[Question] The U.S. representative to the United Nations said that your speech to the General Assembly shows that your country is linked to the Soviet Union. Would you comment on this? How would you describe [words indistinct] with the USSR?

[Ortega] We are facing a systematic U.S. attempt to divide the world into East and West. Thus, anyone who isn't on the U.S. side must be on the side of the East. This is the philosophy behind, or the analytical source of U.S. policy, and it is this that leads the United States to constant error. This philosophy is also linked to their perception of world problems. They immediately describe any social, economic, and political problem as something from the East unless it is under their control. Obviously, this way of looking at things has a high cost of humankind, because it is a completely incorrect policy that results in sacrifices by many peoples. The Nicaraguan position is one of nonalignment. Nicaragua has very good relations with the Soviet Union. In fact, Nicaragua wishes it had this same kind of relations with the United States.

We believe that the Soviet Union's relations with Nicaragua should be considered by the United States, because they constitute ties between the USSR -- a great power in military, economic, and other terms -- and Nicaragua that are characterized by a lack of conditions. These relations operate within a framework of respect, and this is what we are seeking from the United States. We want that kind of relations with the United States.

[Question] A few months ago, the United States drastically cut the sugar quota from your country. Please tell us, is this an isolated case, or are there other U.S. economic actions against your country, and if so, what effects do they have on Nicaragua's situation?

[Ortega] In terms of economic aggression, the United States has carried out actions against Nicaragua not only in bilateral trade, but within the framework of multilateral organizations as well. For example, the IDB finally approved a loan for Nicaragua to benefit the fisheries sector. The United States had been obstructing this loan for almost 2 years, thus having a serious impact on the development of the fishing industry in Nicaragua. It represented a loss of some $2 million. This loan was approved today, but the United States still voted against it.

[Question] I would like to hear your reaction to a statement made by Ambassador Kirkpatrick a few minutes ago. Speaking of your speech at the General Assembly, she stated that it was the same sort of thing you have said before and that your accusations clearly demonstrate that Nicaragua and its government are unequivocally aligned with the Soviet Union and the Soviet bloc. She also said that it was very important that the Nicaraguan people wanted to know her reaction to that statement. [as heard]

[Ortega] I don't think it is necessary for Nicaragua to present proof, here and now, of the U.S. involvement in actions against the Nicaraguan people, because these operations, which were considered clandestine and were known as covert operations, are now being overtly discussed by the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. They are openly approving continued attacks on the Nicaraguan people. I believe that the U.S. representative should consult these facts to determine whether or not Nicaragua is telling the truth.

STATION COMMENTS ON REAGAN'S UN SPEECH

PA271822 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] President Ronald Reagan's speech, delivered this morning before the United Nations, can be interpreted as a great mockery of and scoffing at the sorrow of all the peoples who, like Nicaragua, are suffering the criminal aggressions of U.S. imperialism. In a display of cynicism and hypocrisy, the U.S. President said that the United States continues being the champion of self-determination of the peoples. Such an infamous statement hurts the ears, because he says this immediately after authorizing $19 million for the former Somozist guards who are sowing terror and crime among our people. He says this at a time when he has his hands deep in El Salvador, not allowing the self-determination of a people subjugated by an oppressive and exploitative regime. He speaks of peace and self-determination while leading a power that since World War II has used its armed forces -- or at least threatened to use them -- at least 215 times against other states in order to achieve its imperialist objectives.

Reagan speaks about his concern that in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, and the northern areas of the Pacific Ocean the weapons of war undermine the security of the peoples, endanger peace, and create new areas of confrontation between the big powers. In the face of this outrageous remark, we need only remind him how, during the past year alone, bloody conflicts have been experienced in the mountains surrounding Beirut, the Chadian deserts, the Western Sahara, and the Salvadoran mountains. The United States created these conflicts and used the weapons of war to achieve its hegemonic imperialist objectives.

At the very moment Reagan was trying to appear before the international community as a pacifist, the bloodstained bodies of innocent victims were being picked up in El Salvador, Nicaragua, Beirut, Guatemala, and other areas where imperialism wants to impose itself on the people at all costs.

He speaks of peace and covers the world with military bases and unleashes a covert war against Nicaragua, a war that gets worse and more dangerous each day.

He speaks of peace and respect for the self-determination of peoples while he finances and sends former Somozist guardsmen to kill peaceful Nicaraguans with U.S. weapons simply because we chose the path of freedom and independence. He speaks of peace and respect for peoples but has his war fleet just off our coasts, demonstrating a dirty policy of coercion and blackmail. Reagan's hypocritical concern for [words indistinct] in his speech before the United Nations today was an attempt to disguise the true aggressive nature of U.S. imperialism, the only guilty party in the worsening international tension and arms race in the world.

TASS Comment Cited

PA272216 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] Moscow, 27 Sep (PRENSA LATINA) -- TASS said today that U.S. President Ronald Reagan resorted to a clumsy distortion of well-known facts, demagogy, misinformation, and lies to try and prove that which cannot be proven. During his speech at the 38th UN General Assembly, TASS adds, Reagan hypocritically expressed regret at the increase in violence in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East while pretending to be a peacemaker faithful to the cause of peace. Who, if not Washington, TASS asks, incites conflicts in the world and resorts to force to impose its dictates on the world's peoples, thus making tensions worse?

TASS said that since the end of World War II, the United States has used force or the threat of force against other peoples at least 215 times. We need only recall the bloody crimes by U.S. troops in Southeast Asia, where a million people were the victims of the "made in the U.S.A." [in English] aggression, along with the murders in Lebanon, El Salvador, and Nicaragua, TASS adds. In Central America, U.S. advisers teach the former Somoza guardsmen to murder peaceful Nicaraguans; the United States supports the hateful apartheid regime in South Africa, supplies Hissein Habre's Chadian forces with modern weapons, and practices a policy of coercion and blackmail, TASS stresses. The entire Asian continent, TASS states, is surrounded by U.S. military bases that hinder international detente and the establishment of relations based on good will.

EL NUEVO DIARIO ON KISSINGER'S VISIT TO AREA

PA272334 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 21 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Ramon Maldonado Garcia: "Mr Kissinger: Why Is He Coming to Central America?"]

[Text] There is already talk about Mr Henry Kissinger's trip to Central America. His tactics, characterized by "negotiating on the verge of war" -- a technique taught by John Foster Dulles and the failures in both Vietnam and Kampuchea -- lead to the certain conclusion that he is coming solely to stir up the fire that has been lit by the White House.

But Central America is not Indochina, nor is Nicaragua's current situation similar to that of Vietnam in the days prior to the U.S. aggression.

Several well-known U.S. politicians have commented on this during their recent visits to Nicaragua. Congressman Paul Tsongas, for instance, very accurately stated that "President Reagan's desperation in dealing with Nicaragua will only make the situation worse, since the Somozists have no chance of success."

Why, then, is the U.S. Administration creating, nourishing, and endorsing the current counterrevolutionary military escalation, if not to create a conflagration that measures up to Dr K's negotiating experience?

However, as a result of the political-military experience that our people have accumulated since 19 July 1979, both the worn-out gunboat policy and the criminal diplomacy characterized by "warm" negotiations -- that is, negotiations conducted on top of dead bodies -- have failed, are failing, and will continue to fail over the long term.

Why? Simply because our people have shown that the advance of their Sandinist People's Revolution cannot be curbed, whether by aggression, blockades, a rosary of well-publicized pilgrimages by Kissinger, or gigantic military maneuvers, even if these maneuvers grow to be more numerous than a "pine" forest [reference to "Big Pine" maneuvers].

MINISTRY ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON EL ESPINO ATTACK

PA272228 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Communique issued by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry in Managua on 26 September 1983 -- read by announcer]

[Text] Yesterday at 0430, some 150 Somozist mercenaries, openly supported by an undetermined number of Honduran soldiers, launched an attack on El Espino customs office in Madriz Department with mortars and small arms fire.

The Somozist mercenaries and the Honduran troops supporting them resumed the attack on El Espino at 0530 today, using 120-mm mortars and small arms fire.

The customs installations were destroyed as a result of this criminal act of aggression. The Honduran Army sent an armored vehicle to the site of the incident this afternoon. The attack on El Espino is still underway.

In addition, a second Somozist mercenary force that came from Honduras attacked Santa Maria, 23 km northeast of Nueva Segovia, today. After we repelled the attack, the mercenary force returned to Honduran territory.

In view of the gravity of these actions, particularly the cowardly and unjustified attack on El Espino customs post, the Nicaraguan Government has demanded that the Honduran Government and military authorities order an immediate suspension of this new attack on our territory, which once again shows the allegiance between the Somozist mercenaries and the Honduran Army. This allegiance has reached the extreme point where attacks are planned and staged in perfect coordination and in broad daylight. At the same time, our government has presented a formal and vigorous protest of these acts of aggression, which suffice to disprove the Honduran Government's alleged desire for peace.

Additional Report

PA272224 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] The Somozists have destroyed the El Espino customs office on the northern border. They also destroyed a health center, a TELCOR [Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services Institute] office, a cargo vehicle, and several houses.

It was reported that members of the EPS [Sandinist People's Army] and the Sandinist People's Militias [MPS] were fighting the aggressors and had killed four of them. Two border posts, at Santa Maria and San Lucas, were also attacked. The counter-revolutionaries also damaged one of the bridgeheads on the bridge over the Coco River a few kilometers from Ocotal.

In recent fighting, the EPS seized a large quantity of war supplies, including ammunition for FAL rifles, mines, Uzi submachineguns, and Law rockets. The counter-revolutionary offensive began 2 days ago with attacks on El Espino and incursions into Valaguina and Mozonte, but were repelled by the EPS and the MPS.

Another Attack Reported

PA271327 Managua International Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Excerpt] A crossbeam of the bridge over Rio Coco, in northern Nicaragua, was destroyed by Somozist counterrevolutionaries as part of the offensive launched against the Nicaraguan people. The attacks against Yalaguina and Mosonte, on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border, were repelled by forces of the People's Sandinist Army and the People's Militias, preventing the invaders' advance to strategic positions.

NINE MISKITO REBELS PARDONED, RELEASED

PA261719 Managua International Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] A total of 21 Miskito Indians have defected from the counterrevolutionary ranks and 9 of them have been pardoned and released in Puerto Cabezas on Nicaragua's Atlantic coast. The Indians were welcomed by their relatives with revolutionary joy. They will return to their former productive lifestyles, which had been interrupted by the Somozist guardsmen.

Commander William Ramirez presided over the release ceremony held at the Puerto Cabezas Plaza, where the weapons turned over by the Miskito brothers were also displayed.

ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD IN 1985, NUNEZ SAYS

PA271744 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 22 Sep 83 p 1

[Text] The 1985 elections will be held even if there is a military escalation, Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez told BARRICADA yesterday. Commander Nunez Tellez is also president of the State Council and of the commission charged with drafting the electoral law. The commission was formally organized at yesterday's State Council session to draft the electoral model for the elections that are scheduled to be held in 2 years.

Nunez explained that this model has not yet been defined, adding that it will be the result of accumulated national and international experiences and of the consultations conducted with the country's various political parties. The State Council president insisted, however, that in addition to guaranteeing the people's mass participation, the electoral process must juridically legitimize the power attained. It must also help consolidate the economic, political, and social system we are now building.

Our mission, Nunez told BARRICADA, is to work on the draft document. The dates on which consultations will be conducted with the various political parties and the date on which the document will be discussed at the State Council will be determined later. After the electoral law is approved and the apparatus for promoting the electoral process is organized, the exact date for the elections will be set in 1984. The parliamentary commission's work will receive support in the form of legal advice from the State Council and from an advisory group composed of various personalities who will contribute their political, juridical, and historical opinions under the presidency of Dr Roberto Arguello Hurtado, president of the Supreme Court of Justice.

Tunnerman on Elections

FL262143 Bridgetown CANA in English 2130 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Sep 26, CANA -- Nicaragua's Education Minister Carlos Tunnerman has reiterated the intention of the Sandinista government to call general elections in 1985 if "things go according to plan." According to press reports here, Tunnerman told the annual conference of Jamaica's opposition People's National Party (PNP) that an electoral system was already in place in Nicaragua, and that cadres had been sent to Mexico, Venezuela and Greece to look at their systems with a view to upgrading Managua's.

The Reagan administration had refused visas for Nicaraguan officials to study the American system, he was quoted as saying. The U.S. Government is bitterly opposed to Managua's left-wing Sandinista government, which came to power in the 1979 popular revolution that overthrew the rightwing dictator Anastasio Samoza. Washington arms counter-revolutionaries who operate from across the border in Honduras and Costa Rica.

Tunnerman told the PNP conference that Nicaragua's laws allowed the people to organize politically, but forbade any group returning to Somoza policies. He said too that it was apparent that the United States intended to apply a military solution in Central America, judging from the administration's refusal to listen to suggestions from the Contadora Group for finding peace in the region. "It is important that President Reagan understand that Nicaragua will not bend or yield to any military aggression," Tunnerman declared.

RUIZ: DEBT PROBLEMS UNITING LATIN AMERICA

PA231440 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Today more than ever, the foreign debt problem is helping unite the Latin American countries, Planning Minister Commander Henry Ruiz said on his return from Venezuela. Ruiz said that the foreign debt is a very serious problem which is becoming more complex each day. Therefore, it is necessary that the Latin American countries are united to negotiate.

Ruiz added that SELA already has its own policy on this subject, and that it will stand up for its members if threatened in any way by outside forces.

Further Remarks

PA252006 Managua International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] The Nicaraguan revolutionary government is now engaged in solving economic and defense problems, according to Commander of the Revolution Henry Ruiz.

The Nicaraguan planning minister made this statement to the Brazilian daily ZERO HORA. He stressed that the Nicaraguan people will defend their revolutionary gains to the bitter end.

The Sandinist leader said that incursions by Somozist counterrevolutionaries are part of the CIA's plan of aggression to destabilize Nicaragua's revolutionary process.

OFFICIAL ON COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' PROBLEMS

PA261635 Managua International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Counterrevolutionary activities in northern Zelaya on the Nicaraguan Atlantic coast have met with serious difficulties, the result of internal conflicts among the leaders and the realization that there is no future for them in Nicaragua, Guerrilla Commander William Ramirez, minister for the development of that important region, has commented. The Sandinist official added that despite existing limitations, the revolution has satisfied the people's most pressing needs step by step, and this is being understood.

During the last 4 months there have been numerous counterrevolutionary activities in Nicaragua's Atlantic zone, including nine airspace violations by various types of planes, the official explained. Counterrevolutionary activity has been neutralized despite our loss of several combatants, Commander Ramirez stressed.

NUNEZ ADDRESSES EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DELEGATION

PA272235 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Excerpt] A delegation from the European Parliament has arrived in Managua. The distinguished visitors were met by the State Council directorate and by members of the Foreign Commission. Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez addressed the delegation, saying:

[Begin Nunez recording] I would very much like this visit to help you all to achieve your goal, which continues to be that of acquiring an in-depth understanding of the development of the Sandinist revolution. I also hope that your political exchanges with all of the Nicaraguan political parties will give you a clear idea of our current efforts to consolidate the revolutionary process, while also struggling to put an end to the escalating aggression that has been unleashed against Nicaragua. [end recording]

CULTURE MINISTER RETURNS FROM EUROPEAN TOUR

PA271352 Managua International Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] Nicaragua has received the solidarity of the European nations visited by Culture Minister Ernesto Cardenal on his extended tour of that continent.

In addition, the culture minister announced the signing of several agreements on various issues with international governments and organizations. In Hamburg, he received a donation of DM25,000 in the name of the city, delivered by the mayor. Other important donations were received in the Netherlands, while agreements on cultural assistance and exchange were signed in Greece, Minister Cardenal added.

HAVANA CONTINUES REPORTING ON VARIOUS EVENTS

Nunez' Criticism of U.S. Policy

PA251436 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Commander Carlos Nunez, president of the Nicaraguan State Council, has said that the U.S. refusal to grant visas to a delegation of Nicaraguan legislators is aimed at preventing the U.S. Government and people from learning the truth about that Central American country. In a letter addressed to Thomas O'Neill, speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, Nunez explained that this discriminatory policy reveals the political myopia of U.S. President Ronald Reagan, who is trying to implement an erroneous policy in Central America.

In his letter to O'Neill, Nunez contrasts the U.S. refusal to grant visas to the group of legislators from Nicaragua, a country with which Washington maintains diplomatic relations, and the ease with which the traitor Eden Pastora was granted permission to conduct an extensive tour of the United States for the purpose of collecting funds for counterrevolutionary groups.

Ortega Speech to Nonaligned

PA280249 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Speaking for the Latin American countries, Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua, said at a plenary session of the Nonaligned Movement that U.S. intervention in Central America's domestic affairs constitutes a threat. He also condemned the attacks being endured by the Nicaraguan people.

The plenary session, which took place in the movement's UN headquarters, was for the purpose of assessing the most important international events and deciding on the position to be taken by the movement's members at the 38th UN General Assembly session.

Ruiz Statements on SELA

PA231750 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Nicaraguan Planning Minister Henry Ruiz said in Managua that SELA condemned the coercive measures that the United States has imposed on his country. Ruiz, who attended the ninth meeting of this regional organization in Caracas, said that Latin American unity will give a response to the global external debt, which already totals $320 billion.

According to the Nicaraguan leader, the meeting was very positive, and he added that SELA already has its own economic doctrines and defensive measures for whenever one of its members is attacked by a country alien to the system.

International Aid Figures

PA231804 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Donations to Nicaragua by West European countries and international organizations add up to $16 million so far this year, the International Reconstruction Fund has announced. Of this, $7.2 million is from capitalist European nations and $4 million from the World Health Program, UNICEF, and other institutions.

It has been explained that the biggest allocations have gone to the construction of hospitals and health centers and to the treatment of illnesses.

U.S. Mercenary Magazine

FL211442 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 21 Sep 83

[Text] SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, the magazine for mercenaries, has placed a reporter in the ranks of the anti-Sandinist groups. He has already begun to write stories favorable to the military activities of Eden Pastora and his followers.

Journalist (Steven Salisbury's) reports will be published in the United States, permitting Pastora to consolidate his links to the mercenaries.

The support propaganda the magazine proposes to publish results from the fact that Pastora's groups have not been able to cross the border from Costa Rica and penetrate deeply into Nicaragua despite several attempts and armed incursions.

Desertion of Counterrevolutionaries

PA241740 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Another six counterrevolutionaries have turned themselves in to Nicaraguan authorities and reported a breakdown within the self-styled Nicaraguan Democratic Front made up of former Somozist guardsmen who have camps in Honduras.

Lieutenant Salvador Herrera, commander of State Security operations in Esteli Department, stressed that the pressure of the Sandinist People's Army on infiltrated groups is also an important factor in the breakdown of the counterrevolutionary bands. More than 240 individuals have deserted these bands in the past 3 months, he noted.

The officer reported that three minors who had been kidnapped by former Somozist guardsmen and subsequently forced to join the counterrevolution were released.

Counterrevolutionary Attacks

PA280252 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has charged that counterrevolutionary bands attacked the town of Santa Maria and the El Espino customs post in Nicaraguan Departments of Nueva Segovia and Madriz. The Foreign Ministry added that the anti-Sandinists were supported by the Honduran Army on both occasions.

The attack on the El Espino custom post was carried out by some 150 former Somozist guards and an undetermined number of Honduran soldiers, who used both mortars and rifle fire. The attack, which began on Sunday, was renewed yesterday with the use of a light tank, according to the official report.

The Foreign Ministry report adds that the counterrevolutionary group that attacked the town of Santa Maria then fled to Honduran territory. The document concludes by stating that because of the gravity of these events, the Nicaraguan Government has asked the Honduran authorities to order an immediate stop to this aggression.

EPS Clashes With Contras

PA271337 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] The Sandinist Peoples Army has repelled three counterrevolutionary attacks in northern Nicaragua. These attacks, launched at villages in the Departments of Madriz and Nueva Segovia, left 12 dead, among them 2 border patrol guardsmen and 1 member of the Sandinist Peoples Militia [EPS].

During an attack on the village of El Espino, the counterrevolutionaries were repelled after several hours of combat, leaving behind three dead, as yet unidentified.

In other attacks, the former Somozist guardsmen suffered six casualties in simultaneous attacks on the villages of Monzonte and Yalaguina located in the Departments of Neuva Segovia and Madriz, respectively.

Tourist Bus Attack

FL272136 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1809 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] A PRESNA LATINA dispatch indicates that a tourist bus, returning from Mexico was attacked by counterrevolutionary forces between (Dilpito) and (La Cabana) in the Department of Nueva Segovia, resulting in numerous injuries to passengers. Nicaraguan military sources said that many tourists from the city of Masaya were traveling on the bus. Several of the injured are being treated in the hospital at Ocotal.

Also, from the Nicaraguan town of Ocotal, in the same northern department, it was announced that in an act of sabotage, the bridge over the Coco River was dynamited, causing serious damage to its structure.

According to the latest information, forces of the Sandinist People's Army and the Sandinist People's Militia continue fighting in several places in the Departments of Nueva Segovia and Madriz.

ARDE'S ROBELO SAYS DIALOGUE CAN STOP WAR

PA241546 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2210 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Bogota, 23 Sep (DPA) -- Alfonso Robelo, one of the foremost leaders of the Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance [ARDE] and a former member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, today admitted that his country is facing a war situation, but said that ARDE does not dismiss the possibility of engaging in dialogue with the leaders of the Managua regime to find a political solution to the conflict.

Robelo, who made a lightning visit to Bogota as part of a broader tour of Latin American countries, said that his trip to Bogota was intended to provide an opportunity for him to present the truth about what is happening in Nicaragua directly to the Colombian people and to make contact with this country's democratic sector. Robelo added before leaving for Caracas today that he will make a similar trip to Venezuela.

Robelo said that ARDE wants a dialogue which will bring true liberty to Nicaraguans and redirect the revolutionary process back toward its original goals. The Nicaraguan leader emphasized that if this path is found, the war will end tomorrow.

The Nicaraguan opposition leader said that the Managua government's report concerning alleged U.S. participation in the air raids on Managua and other cities is false. He added that the attacking planes lifted off from Nicaraguan territory, noting that there is already a vast "liberated" zone encompassing 4,000 sq km which includes several landing strips for rebel aircraft to operate from.

Robelo also referred to the popular support which his movement has won by noting that the 300 armed men which they had in early May have now been increased to 3,000. He added that a sign of the Managua government's unpopularity can be seen in the approval of the new compulsory military service law, because no one volunteers to join the government militia. He said that this also demonstrates support for the resistance.

Regarding the possibility of the Sandinist government's opening a dialogue with the opposition, Robelo noted that if there is international pressure, there still might be hope because, he said, "if the leaders in Managua have a drop of patriotism left, that is the path they will follow -- not the one of turning the revolution over to its new masters, Cuba and the Soviet Union."

Regarding the Contadora Group's efforts, Robelo said that the process initiated by the four countries has been too slow, but noted that, nevertheless, the last meeting held in Panama was encouraging because for the first time a resolution was issued. He said that the Contadora Group must play an important role, but indicated that "it does not have much time left."

As for the assistance the Nicaraguan rebels are receiving from several countries, the ARDE leader said that rumors suggesting that the movement is financed by the CIA are absolutely false. He did add, however, that if the United States were to offer assistance without setting terms, that help would be welcome. Robelo said that the movement currently receives aid from the committees of Nicaraguan exiles in various parts of the world, from "friendly" democratic groups in several areas of Latin America, from Jewish groups in the United States, and from European democratic organizations.

Robelo today left for Caracas, the last leg of his Latin American tour.

ARDE SEEKS CLARIFICATION ON ETA FROM SPAIN

PA221450 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 22 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez has said that Spain will request that Spanish terrorist Gregorio Jimenez Morales, the leader of an ETA [Basque Fatherland and Liberty] column who was arrested in San Jose, Costa Rica, be extridited.

Meanwhile, the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, [ARDE], which is fighting in the south against the Nicaraguan totalitarian regime, has asked the Spanish Government to define its position on ETA's terrorist activities in this Central American country.

Diplomatic circles in San Jose and the Costa Rican police recently came into possession of documents from the Spanish Consulate in Leon, the second largest Nicaragua city, revealing that the Spanish terrorist group had come to San Jose to assissinate Nicaraguan leaders in exile, including Commander Eden Pastora and Alfonso Robelo. Apparently, most of the group's members left the country when Gregorio Jimenez Morales, their leader, and others were arrested.

The INTERPOL and the Spanish Government counterinsurgency police are cooperating with the Costa Rican Government in investigating this case. It was also learned that the terrorist column had its headquarters near Commander Pastora's home in Escazu.

Voice of Sandino's Reaction

PA231935 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Diplomatic relations between Spain and Nicaragua could be broken at any minute due to recent statements by the criminal Tomas Borge, who has said in Spain that there are members of the sinister ETA organization in that country. [as heard]

According to broadcasts monitored by our stations, during that individual's recent visit to Spain, he resorted to every possible scheme, the product of the shamelessness with which he sought to redicule the Spanish Government. The media have insistently hounded him, but the sad truth is that things are what they are: This is Tomas Borge, war criminal, who together with his clique of killers, ordered our ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] leaders killed, making use of the well-known methods of international communism. According to monitored broadcasts, reliable sources report that Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran told the international media that the problem with the Nicaraguan Government would be serious if investigations underway prove that that government is involved in the case attracting the attention of the Spanish and international press. The Spanish foreign minister clearly stated that Spain may break diplomatic relations with the Nicaraguan Government if it is proven that that government has made an agreement to train Basque terrorists in Managua.

We add a last minute report which says that a new threat has been made against Enrique Obregon, the Costa Rican ambassador to Spain, by ETA communists. This threat is an attempt to pressure the Costa Rican Government as a result of the arrest of Gregorio Jimenez Morales, the Basque terrorist being held by neighboring Costa Rica.

UDN-FAR, FDN ON EL ESPINO, OCOTAL BATTLES

PA270435 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2354 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Choluteca, Honduras, 26 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- Several commandos belonging to the opposition Revolutionary Armed Forces of the Nicaraguan Democratic Union (UDN-FAR), who were wounded in clashes with the Sandinist Army Saturday, Sunday and today, are being cared for in hospitals in this southern Honduras city. The commando groups attacked and took over the El Espino customs post at 0400 on Saturday (1000 GMT), but were evicted yesterday afternoon after heavy clashes in which several were wounded.

The UDN-FAR left their wounded on the edge of the Honduran border, and from there they were taken to medical centers in the area. This unofficial report was broadcast by the local station Radio America, which has mobilized its correspondents.

The same source said that people who live close to the border in Nicaraguan territory have chosen to seek refuge in the Honduran city of San Marcos de Colon, and that the Honduran Army is evacuating area residents to keep them from getting accidentally hurt.

The employees of the Honduran customs post have remained on the job, but traffic between the two countries is nil, primarily because the rebels have blown up the bridge over the Tepacale River that links El Espino to Somoto.

The UDN-FAR forces are led by Fernando (El Negro) Chamorro, but it has not been confirmed that he is in the combat zone.

From another quarter, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) -- another opposition group -- insisted today that its commando forces are fighting in the city of Ocotal, although this was denied today in Managua. FDN spokesmen said that the action in Ocotal, the capital of Neueva Segovia Department, is the start of a new phase of urban guerrilla struggle.

According to a report from Radio 15 September, 4 of 10 neighborhoods that comprise Ocotal are in the guerrillas' hands and heavy clashes are underway in the center of town.

ARDE BULLETINS, REPORTS ON ANTIJUNTA ACTIONS

Attack on Cardenas, Rivas

PA211637 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 21 Sep 83

[War Bulletin No 73 issued by the Miskito, Sumu, Rama Sandinist Unity, MISURASATA; the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, MDN; the Sandino Revolutionary Front, FRS; and the Christian Democratic Solidarity Front, FSDC, in the "Nicaraguan mountains," dated 20 September]

[Text] The General Command of the armed forces of the Revolutionary Democratic Alliance, ARDE, informs the Nicaraguan people and the peoples of the world that:

At 0500 on 18 September 1983 the Francisco Rodriguez Rodriguez and Ezequiel columns attacked the military command at Cardenas, Rivas Department. In that attack, which lasted 30 minutes, our forces captured Mario Antonio Villavicencio, of the EPS (Sandinist People's Army) Battalion No 5820, and Julio Perez, a native of Nandaime, of the 8012 Battalion. During this action, the defenders of national sovereignty seized a large amount of weapons and ammunition.

In view of the speed of our action, the members of the regime's army of intervention responded in a disordered fashion, suffering eight casualties. Our forces did not report any losses. The morale of our patriotic fighters remains high, and from the Nicaraguan mountains they continue to prepare for a strike at the heart of the pro-Soviet army of intervention. We will fight until our country is once again free, sovereign, and independent.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

Junta Casualties Reported

PA211726 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 21 Sep 83

[War Bulletin No 74 issued by the Miskito, Sumu, Rama Sandinist Unity, MISURASATA; the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, MDN; the Sandino Revolutionary Front, FRS; and the Christian Democratic Solidarity Front, FSDC, from the "Nicaraguan mountains," on 20 September 1983]

[Text] The general command of the Revolutionary Democratic Alliance [ARDE] informs the Nicaraguan people and other peoples of the world that:

At 1400 on 19 September 1983, the Commander Sebastian Muller platoon, led by Israel and belonging to the Ramon Raudales column, whose leader is Pavao, attacked the Bartola sector near Pena Hill, 2 km from El Castillo, in Rio San Juan Department. The fighting lasted several hours, in which time the Cuban-Soviet army interventionist suffered 60 casualties. Three of our heroic fighters died defending their country, which is being humiliated by bad Nicaraguans and foreign troops who are serving totalitarian interests. In the operation, called the funnel, the enemy attacked our forces with 120-mm cannon, but our deployment tactics prevented them from inflicting many casualties on our ranks. The fighting capacity of our guerrilla columns has been demonstrated in all of these military actions, which are designed to consolidate our control over the liberated territory.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

FDN REFUTES HENRY RUIZ' CHARGES ON INVASION

PA231730 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] The Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN] has refuted remarks by Nicaraguan Planning Minister Henry Ruiz. The FDN National Directorate has described a demagogic Planning Minister Henry Ruiz' recent statement that Nicaragua is facing an invasion rather than a civil war.

In a communique, the FDN said that the insurrection of the Nicaraguan people cannot be termed an invasion. It added that the people's armed wing is made up of more than 12,000 men, and stressed that no Nicaraguan can invade his own country. The FDN, which is fighting in the north and the interior of Nicaragua, said that in its latest actions it inflicted 154 casualties on the Sandinist Peoples Army. It said it inflicted 48 wounded in Kilambe, El Cedro, Aguasarca, La Pita, El Carmen, and Waslaito.

HAVANA SAYS REAGAN'S UN SPEECH DISTORTS FACTS

FL271517 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1250 GMT 27 Sep 83

[From foreign news analysis program by Miguel Toirac]

[Text] This is a report on the hypocritical speech delivered by U.S. President Ronald Reagan at the United Nations. As always, Reagan distorted the facts at the 38th UN General Assembly and resorted to demagoguery, misinformation, and lies. He deplored, naturally hypocritically as the facts prove, the U.S. presence in Lebanon; however, the United States is present in El Salvador, the United States is present in Africa, the United States is present everywhere in the world. In addition, it has bases everywhere.

He also hypocritically deplored the increased violence in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East. In the presence of all the delegates, he pretended to be a faithful pacifier and lover of peace. Naturally, he is the lover of a peace enforced by bayonets and marines spread all over the world.

He also expressed irritation over the widening rift between the United States and the Nonaligned Movement countries, condemning the member countries which to not submit to his dictates, that is, the dictates of Washington.

Naturally, this speech by Reagan was another attempt to misinform world public opinion. To cite just one instance of Reagan's hypocrisy of being a pacifier of the world and lover of peace, one must point out the fact that since the end of World War II the United States has used arms or force more than 215 times against other peoples. This is a demonstration that the United States does not have a pacifying attitude in the world.

COMMENTARY ALLEGES U.S. 'DESPERATION' IN AREA

PA280332 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 26 Sep 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Recent developments have confirmed that the United States is not interested in a peaceful solution of the Central American conflict. The CIA has instructed the counterrevolutionary groups stationed in Honduras and Costa Rica to intensify their attacks on Nicaragua. This further confirms the U.S. Government's desperation and its unscrupulous efforts to impose its will on the region's peoples.

THE WASHINGTON POST recently reported that the CIA has demanded that the counterrevolutionary groups change their tactics and begin showing results in terms of terrorist activities, in return for the money that the United States is investing in them.

The attacks on and sabotage against Nicaragua have increased at a time when that country is virtually surrounded by military forces which are allegedly participating in unusually large-scale military maneuvers being carried out jointly by U.S. and Honduran troops. The U.S. Government is staging these maneuvers against the will of the U.S. Congress.

In addition, the U.S. Government is not providing any details of the Central American conflict to the U.S. people. A Nicaraguan delegation led by State Council President Carlos Nunez was forced to cancel its trip to the United States when U.S. authorities refused to grant them entry visas.

Similarly, Ruben Zamora, a member of the FMLN-FDR Political-Diplomatic Commission was twice denied a visa last August by the U.S. Government.

The U.S. Government's objectives for Central America were clearly defined by Fred C. Ikle, Under Secretary of Defense, when he said that the United States should prevent the consolidation of the Nicaraguan Government. Using strong language, Ikle accused Congress of refusing to give President Reagan the necessary means to achieve success in the region. THE NEW YORK TIMES said that Ikle attacked the sector in Congress that opposes any major U.S. involvement in Central America.

Speaking in Baltimore, Ikle said that the only way to defend what he called democracies was for the United States to deploy its forces in those countries, as it has done in South Korea and in the FRG. Ikle added that if the United States does not prevent the consolidation of the Sandinist revolution in Nicaragua, Central America will be divided, which will force the United States to open a second military front of the American Continent within the context of the East-West conflict.

This simplistic theory is but a new face to the old Monroe Doctrine, an imperialist doctrine which held that America was for the North Americans. This is another way in which the U.S. Government is working to conceal the plain fact that social and economic injustice are the real causes of the peoples' rebellion in Central America, and justifies its trampling on the peoples' legitimate and inviolable right to self-determination.

COMMUNIST YOUTH IN SOLIDARITY WITH PUERTO RICO

PA252310 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] The Cuban Union of Young Communists [UJC] has reiterated its support for the Puerto Rican patriotic forces' struggle for independence, in a statement issued by its national council on the occasion of the campaign of solidarity with the Puerto Rican people. The U.S. Government, the statement declares, has turned Puerto Rico into a gigantic military base that represents a serious threat both for the people of Puerto Rico and for all of the region's progressive forces and peoples. The document adds that the so-called Free Associated State is a disguise with which U.S. imperialism is trying to mask the typically colonialist nature of its shameless intervention in all aspects of Puerto Rican life.

The UJC added that the rebelling Puerto Rican people, youth and students included, today are struggling under difficult conditions to shake off the colonial yoke that has been imposed by the United States. The most reactionary and backward sectors of the United States, supported by traitors and those who are willing to sell their homeland and who protect the interests of the Yankee master, are continuing their fight to hang onto the island.

The campaign of solidarity with the Puerto Rican people's struggle began in Cuba on 12 September and will conclude today with a voluntary agricultural activity in which Puerto Ricans and other Latin Americans residing in our country will participate.

CUBA ASSUMES UN COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENCY

FL271710 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] Cuba has been elected to the vice presidency of the UN Commission for Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Affairs despite the opposition of the Chilean delegation sent by General Augusto Pinochet. Cuban delegate Maria de los Angeles Flores won almost unanimous approval with 79 votes out of 87, while the Chilean delegate only got 1 vote. There were 6 abstentions.

AFGHAN, BULGARIAN MINISTERS SIGN COMMUNIQUES

PA280305 Havana International Service in Spanish 1 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] The Cuban, Bulgarian, and Afghan Governments have reiterated their support of the Sandinist revolution in the face of the U.S. aggression and declared their solidarity with the Contadora Group's efforts to bring the Central American conflict to an end, according to two communiques issued in Havana on the occasion of the recent visit here by Bulgarian Foreign Affairs Minister Petur Mladenov and Afghan Foreign Affairs Minister Mohammad Dost.

The two documents also confirm the signatories' support for the Salvadoran people's right to self-determination and reject the gunboat diplomacy that the United States is imposing on the Central American people.

The documents also express support for the USSR's position in favor of a treaty that would put an end to the arms race and for the Soviet stance on precluding nuclear arms in outer space. In addition, Bulgaria and Afghanistan bo[illegible] rejected imperialist efforts to link Namibia's independence to the departure of the Cuban internationalist forces from Angola.

Finally, the communique reiterated all three countries' support for the Palestinian people's right to a free and independent state.

AFP: DISSIDENT ACADEMIC BOFILL REPORTED MISSING

NC271853 Paris AFP in English 1832 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] Paris, Sep 27 (AFP) -- Cuban dissident academic Tomas Bofill has been missing from his home in Havana since Saturday, Spanish writer Fernando Arrabal said here today.

Mr Arrabal said he had been informed of Mr Bofill's disappearance by the academic's wife, who lives in Miami, Florida, and by Cuban writer Armando Valladares, who is currently in Madrid.

The French Foreign Ministry said its General Secretary Francis Gutmann was to meet later today with the Cuban ambassador here, Alberto Boza, about Mr Bofill, who teaches Marxist philosophy at Havana University.

Cuban opposition sources said Mr Bofill had sought refuge in the French Embassy in Havana in April after which the building was surrounded by Cuban troops.

The sources said French Ambassador Pierre Descamps had asked Mr Bofill to leave, telling him he had received assurances from Cuban Vice-President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez that he would be allowed to leave the country.

The French magazine L'EXPRESS published details of the affair on Ausut 23 without naming Mr Bofill, but the French Government at the time categorically denied that the French ambassador had "reportedly handed over" an opponent of Cuban leader Fidel Castro to the Cuban authorities.

BAHAMAS

ISLANDS SUPPORT PINDLING ON NBC ALLEGATIONS

FL271641 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] PLP [Progressive Liberal Party] supporters in Eleuthera say they are behind Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindli ; and his government regarding the NBC allegation. Peter Boleg reads their news rele se.

[Begin Boleg recording] The people of Eleuthera, the island called Freedom, along with their three dedicated members of Parliament, the Hon Phillip M Bethel, representative for Governor's Harbor; Mr James Moultrie, representative for Rock Sound; and Mr Peter Bethel, representative for St John's, wish to express their total support for Sir Lynden Pindling and his government at this time when forces from outside and inside try to discredit the good name of our government and country.

NBC can find enough in the Government of the United States to talk about and should not have tried to spread vicious and dirty rumors about our beloved prime minister and minister of youth, sports, and community affairs.

We strongly reject the slanderous allegations made against Sir Lynden and his government. To our beloved prime minister and all his PLP supporters we say: Fret not thyselves because of evildoers, for God will never leave you nor forsake you. [end recording]

That's Peter Boleg. And Mr Errington Watson says PLP supporters in Clarence Town, Long Island, have also come out in support of the prime minister and the government.

[Begin Watson recording] Supporters of the Hon Prime Minister and his government in the Clarence Town constituency would like it to be known by NBC Television and all the FNM [Free National Movement], who are aspiring to bring down the best government that this country has ever had, that we are 1001 percent behind the PM and his government. We also congratulate him for the manner in which he is so ably handling the situation. [end recording]

Mr Errington Watson. The Rev E.A. Palmson of Acklin has telegramed to say that a public meeting was held in Snug Corner and as a result the people of Acklin and Crooked Island stand solidly behind the government in the NBC allegations.

BARBADOS

ADAMS ON CARICOM IN IMF, WORLD BANK POSITIONS

FL272103 Bridgetown CANA in English 2019 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Sep 27, CANA -- Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams says Caribbean Community (Caricom) states must hold administrative positions in the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) if the countries are to be effective in securing better aid conditions from the Washington-based institutions.

Mr Adams, now in Washington for the annual joint meetings of these two major international financial institutions, was referring to those officers that deal with the Caribbean.

He told the New York correspondent of the independent Voice of Barbados (VOB) radio that in this connection, he has conferred with Canadian Finance Minister Marc Lalonde.

Barbados, along with its 12 other Caricom partners, is in a geographic grouping at the World Bank that includes Canada.

The Caricom countries, whose numbers will be increased shortly when the Federation of St Kitts and Nevis joins the World Bank and the IME, are urging that the voice and presence of the Caribbean countries be expanded at the staff level to reflect the increase in numbers.

Adams said that the discussions with the Canadian finance minister focused on the future organisation of the Caricom constituency within the IMF and the World Bank.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

AIDS CLAIMS LIVES OF 7 SO FAR THIS YEAR

FL280048 Bridgetown CANA in English 2139 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] AIDS, the mysterious killer disease, has claimed the lives of seven young Trinidadian men so far for the year.

THE EXPRESS newspaper said the victims, the latest of whom died last Friday, were between the ages of 22 and 34 years old.

Six of the men were said to be bisexuals.

AIDS -- acquired immune deficiency syndrome -- attacks the body's immune system and fatality from the disease is high. Homosexuals have been singled among persons most likely to develop the disease.

COLOMBIA

LLOREDA CONDEMNS ATTACK ON VENEZUELAN POST

PA241617 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 20 Sep 83 p 3A

[Text] The Colombian Government has expressed its rejection and condemnation of the attack which armed subversives carried out at dawn on Saturday against a border post of the Venezuelan National Guard. The post is located in Cutufi, near the headwaters of the Apure. Several casualties, including one death, were reported. Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo is presently in Caracas for the ninth SELA meeting; he delivered the following message to his Venezuelan counterpart, Jose Alberto Zambrano:

"Dear Mr Minister: The Colombian Government and people have learned with indignation of the surprise attack launched only hours ago by subversives against a border post of the Venezuelan National Guard located in Cutufi, region of the upper Apure. It was a cowardly attack and caused several casualties, including one death, among the members of this military unit.

"The Government of the Republic of Colombia expresses its strongest rejection of the criminal action conducted by this rebel group and offers its most heartfelt condolences to the relatives of the victims of this dreadful act, which proves the danger posed by these subversives without a fatherland, who respect neither lives nor borders.

"The Colombian Armed Forces are taking all measures necessary to pursue and capture the culprits.

"My government agrees with your own on the urgent need to increase and strengthen the cooperation between our two countries to combat this and other forms of illicit behavior.

"Please accept, Mr Minister, the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem.

"Cordially, Rodrigo Lloreda."

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ENVOY TO U.S. QUITS, CITES DIFFERENCES

FL271410 Santo Domingo Radio Clarin in Spanish 0450 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] The Dominican ambassador to the United States, Carlos Despradel, has presented his resignation from the country's most important diplomatic post abroad. According to information available to Clarin informativo, Despradel's resignation was sparked by serious differences with the secretary of state for foreign relations, Dr Jose Augusto Vega Imbert, over the manner in which he should discharge his duties in the U.S. capital.

The former governor of the Central Bank during the administration of the late President Antonio Guzman placed his post at the disposal of the president of the republic, Dr Salvador Jorge Blanco, in a letter to the chief executive. Despradel was one of the negotiators of the country's foreign debt, which resulted in a $459-million loan from the IMF to be repaid in 3 years.

There was no word available on who will replace Carlos Despradel as the Dominican ambassador to the United States.